



EMBASSY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA
COPENHAGEN

MODTAGET
LEDELSESSEKRETARIATET

Dato 5/12-07 Kl.

Број/No. : 21-01-506/2
Дата/Date : 03.12.2007

Folketinget
Office of the Speaker of the Parliament,
H.E. Mr. Thor Pedersen
Christiansborg
1240 København K

Dear Sir,

The Embassy of the Republic of Macedonia in Copenhagen has the honour to enclose the Resolution on the priorities for the accession of Republic of Macedonia to the European Union and the initiation of negotiations for membership in the European Union, which was adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia on November 27, 2007



Sashin Karamanov
Charge d'Affaires a.i.

In accordance with article 68, paragraph 2 of the Constitution of the Republic of Macedonia, the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia, at its session held on 27 November 2007, adopted the following

Resolution

on the priorities for the accession of Republic of Macedonia to the European Union and the initiation of negotiations for membership in the European Union

Driven by the clearly expressed determination of the citizens and the clearly expressed consensus of the political entities for the accession of Republic of Macedonia to the European Union,

Emphasizing that the integration of Republic of Macedonia in the European Union represents a strategic goal of vital significance,

Being aware of the need for as soon as possible attainment of common European values and meeting of political and economical standards, and for fulfillment of the Copenhagen criteria that warrant political stability, democracy, freedom, security, and economic prosperity,

Reaffirming its determination for initiation of negotiations for membership of the European Union, which shall bring a new quality to the relations between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union,

Having regard to the Declaration for development of the relations between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union, adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia on 4 February 1998, as well as the Declaration for strengthening the relations between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union, adopted by the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia on 4 November 2000,

Having regard to the Declaration for submission of an application for membership of Republic of Macedonia in the European Union, adopted on 13 February 2004,

Fully confirming the determination of the Republic of Macedonia for realization of the obligations taken under the Declaration of the EU Summit - Western Balkans, held on 21 June 2003, and the Conclusions of the Council: The Thessalonica Agenda for the Western Balkans: Moving Toward European Integration,

Recollecting the conclusions of the European Council in Helsinki, adopted on 11 December 1999, which emphasize that the fulfillment of the political criteria laid down by the Copenhagen European Council is a prerequisite for the initiation of the

negotiations for accession, and the fulfillment of all Copenhagen criteria shall be the basis for the accession to the European Union,

Recalling the conclusions of the European Council of 15 and 16 December 2005, by which the Republic of Macedonia has been granted the status of a candidate country,

Having regard to the Stabilization and Association Agreement between Republic of Macedonia and the European Union, which entered into force on 1 April 2004,

Having regard to the Draft Progress Report of the European Commission on the progress achieved by the Republic of Macedonia in 2007, and the priorities of the Accession Partnership, as well as the 2007 Strategic Enlargement Document,

Affirming the role of the Republic of Macedonia in the promotion of regional co-operation and good neighborly relations,

Recalling the National Programme for adoption of the *acquis communautaire*, which confirms the determination of the Republic of Macedonia to be completely ready for accession to the European union by 2010,

Pointing out that the present Resolution complies with the structure of the Copenhagen criteria for membership in the European Union, having regard to the political and economical criteria and the criterion for alignment of the national legislation with the one of the European Union,

The Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia

1. Confirms its firm resolve to undertake all necessary political steps and activities to initiate the accession negotiations with the European Union.

2. Expresses its determination to strengthen the co-operation and to improve the political dialogue among the representatives in the Parliament, in the process of political decision-making, and to intensify the activities for the initiation of negotiations on the membership in the European Union.

For the realization of these objectives, it condemns the hate speech in the Parliament's debates.

3. Expresses its readiness to provide for a timely adoption of the acts necessary for realization of priorities arising from the Accession Partnership, so as to enable the Republic of Macedonia to commence the negotiations for accession to the European Union.

4. Confirms that the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement is of crucial importance for the further democratic development and for the functioning of the Republic of Macedonia, and expresses its determination and co-operation of the political parties in its consistent implementation.

5. Supports the Government in giving a full priority to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Draft Progress Report of the European Commission on the progress achieved by the Republic of Macedonia in 2007, as well as the priorities of the Accession Partnership, taking into account the Strategy for Enlargement of the European Union.

6. Supports the President of the Republic of Macedonia and the Prime Minister of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia, within their constitutional and legal

competencies, to continue with the co-operation in the realization of the national priorities arising from the strategic determination for membership in the European Union.

7. Confirms its resolve for full implementation of Strategy for Judicial Reforms, supporting the autonomy of the judiciary and increased efficiency of the judicial system.

In this context, the composition of the Judicial Council shall be completed.

8. Supports the Government in the Police Reforms, aimed at efficient functioning and warranting the rule of law.

9. Expresses its commitment to intensification of the reforms of the state and public administration, based on the principles of quality, qualifications and competence (merit system).

10. Emphasizes its resolve to implement decentralization and supports the Government in the implementation of this process.

11. Acclaims the battle against corruption and calls for a full commitment and consistency of all competent authorities in the pursuit of activities for prevention of corruption, as well as in the full implementation of the National Programme for Prevention and Repression of Corruption.

12. Reiterates its resolve for further promotion and exercise of human rights.

13. Acclaims the constructive standing of the Republic of Macedonia concerning the regional co-operation and stimulates the further intensification of the activities within the regional co-operation framework.

14. Welcomes the results achieved in the fulfillment of the economic criteria for membership in the European Union, the progress in the fulfillment of the criterion for a functional market economy, and supports the Government in undertaking of all necessary activities for increasing the competitiveness of the Macedonian economy.

15. Welcomes the adoption of the Pre-Accession Economic Programme and the National Developmental Plan, and expresses its readiness to contribute to the implementation thereof.

16. Emphasizes the significance of the strengthening of capacities of independent regulatory bodies and expresses its readiness to upgrade its own role within this context.

17. Supports the Government in its efforts to undertake continual activities for full implementation of the Stabilization and Association Agreement.

18. Supports the Government as regards its National Programme for Adoption of the *acquis communautaire* and the Government Programme for incorporation of recommendations arising from the Draft Progress Report of the European Commission on the progress achieved by the Republic of Macedonia in 2007, as well as the priorities arising from the Accession Partnership.

19. Expresses the resolve, in its operation, and in the operation of the working bodies of the Parliament, to give priority to deliberation of laws aimed at alignment of the national legislation with the *acquis communautaire*.

Within this contexts, the priority shall be given to the adoption of laws of the European Union that are within parliamentary procedure.

20. Supports the Government of the Republic of Macedonia in setting the priority on the strengthening of the administrative capacity of institutions in the function of the adoption of the *acquis communautaire*.

Special attention should be put to providing an adequate budget and staffing of the Parliament.

21. Urges the Government of the Republic of Macedonia to continue with the promotion of the institutional dialogue with the European Union in the accession process and to continue communicating information on the reform processes and achievements in the Republic of Macedonia, and to promote the co-operation with the Member States concerning the initiation of the negotiations for the accession of Republic of Macedonia to the European Union.

22. Expresses the readiness of the Members of Parliament, in view of their international activities and, in particular, the activities within the European regional organizations, as well as the co-operation with the Parliaments of the Member States of EU, to continue communicating information on the reform processes and achievements in the Republic of Macedonia, and affirm the position of the Republic of Macedonia for a sooner opening of the negotiations for accession to the European Union.

23. Welcomes the signing of the Framework Agreement for Utilization of the Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance (IPA) between the Republic of Macedonia and the European Union.

24. Calls upon the Government to inform the Parliament regularly and comprehensively on all aspects of the accession process.

25. Within its activities for acceleration of the accession process, it shall engage the civil sector and intensify the communication with the public, and it recommends the Government to include all of society's potentials in the accession process.

26. The present Resolution shall be communicated to the Speaker of the European Parliament, the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of the European Union and to the European Council, to the President and the members of the European Commission and to the Speakers of national Parliaments of EU Member States.

27. The present Resolution shall be published in the "Official Gazette of the Republic of Macedonia".

PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

No. 07-5097/1
27 November 2007
Skopje

**PRESIDENT
OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF MACEDONIA**
Ljubisha Georgievski, signed