



COMMISSION

ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

FOURTH MEETING

28-30 APRIL 2015

BISHKEK

RECOMMENDATION

**“ELECTION SYSTEMS AND ELECTIONS IN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF TURKPA
and ELECTION OBSERVATION ACTIVITIES OF THE ASSEMBLY”**

The Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries:

*1. **Reaffirming** its commitment to the principles of democracy, rule of law and respect of human rights reflected in its declarations;*

*2. **Emphasizing** that the will of the people that freely and fairly expressed through the elections is the basis for authority and legitimacy of all governments;*

*3. **Noting** the development of national election legislation in the member countries and significant progress towards administering elections in line with the principles of transparency, fairness and respect of human rights;*

*4. **Positively assessing** the activities of its International Observers Mission that highlighted adherence of the Assembly to the principles of observing national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of each member country, as well as its contribution to strengthening public confidence in electoral processes;*

*5. **Commending** the idea on improving observation practices of its mission and further efforts to comprehensively monitor the national election processes in the member countries;*

*6. **Being conscious** that sharing information, experience and best practices among the member countries will pave the way for discussions on elaboration and adoption of election observation methodology of TURKPA with due consideration of electoral systems and political structures of the member countries*

***recommends** the national parliaments of TURKPA member countries*

i) to develop cooperation among the member countries on exchange of information and sharing experience on national election legislation and national electoral systems that may include the following activities:

a) organization of expert meetings, workshops and round tables dedicated to the analysis and assessment of national electoral systems, legal framework on elections and referenda, and application practices by the member countries;

b) organization of joint meetings of the high election authorities of the member countries in order to create and develop interaction mechanisms among them;

c) close study of the international legal instruments on elections;

ii) to initiate discussions on elaboration and adoption of methodology of TURKPA's election observation based on long-term monitoring of elections and unbiased assessment of entire electoral process in the member countries.

The said methodology may include relevant standards, regulations, recommendations and practical arrangements;

iii) to ensure participation of national election experts in monitoring local elections of the member countries with the view of examining procedural, administrative and organizational aspects of local elections;

iv) to organize deployment of observation missions jointly with the Turkic Council in order to elaborate a single pattern of election observation standards within Turkic cooperation and to hold relevant consultations among both organizations.