

Vienna Office

Vienna, 2 February 2004

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to draw your attention to our forthcoming Winter Meeting, to which all Parliamentary Delegations of Participating States and of the Partners for Cooperation have been invited. The invitations have been extended to the Parliaments in a form which is customary in Parliaments, namely by forwarding the Meeting's Programme and Agendas to them. For your information, I attach the latest draft of these documents to you. I would also appreciate your support in making sure that your national Parliament is well represented in our meeting. All delegations in Vienna are invited to attend our meetings, and we will be happy to see you there. Of course, since you are aware of the constraints in the Hofburg in terms of seats available, and taking into consideration that far more than 300 Parliamentarians and staff are expected to attend the Meeting, it might turn out to be difficult to assign sufficient seats to all persons invited, especially during the opening ceremony. On the other hand, experience has shown that each mission in Vienna can make arrangements with its Parliamentary Delegation in a way that at least every Ambassador wishing to do so can actually be seated.

I would like to avail myself of this opportunity to renew to all accredited Delegations to the OSCE the assurances of my highest consideration.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador

**DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE THIRD WINTER MEETING  
OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

*Vienna, 19-20 February 2004  
(updated on 26 January 2004)*

All meetings of the Standing Committee and the three General Committees will take place in the Congress Center Hofburg in Vienna.

**Thursday, 19 February**

- 08.30-11.30            **Standing Committee**
- 11.30-13.30           **Joint Session of the three General Committees:**
- Call to order;
  - Opening remarks by the President of the OSCE PA;
  - Address by the President of the Austrian Nationalrat;
  - Address of the OSCE Chair-in-Office followed by a question/answer session (tbc);
  - Presentation of Prize for Journalism and Democracy
- 13.30-15.00           **Lunch break**
- 15.00-18.00           **General Committee on Political Affairs and Security**
- Opening remarks by the Committee Chair;
  - Briefing by Senior OSCE Officials followed by a question/answer session;
  - Discussion led by the Rapporteur on the subjects to be considered at the Annual Session in Edinburgh followed by general debate
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- 15.00-18.00           **General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment**
- Opening remarks by the Committee Chair;
  - Briefing by Senior OSCE Officials followed by a question/answer session;
  - Discussion led by the Rapporteur on the subjects to be considered at the Annual Session in Edinburgh followed by general debate
- 18.30                    Buffet Reception hosted by the President of the Austrian Nationalrat**

## **Friday, 20 February**

09.30-12.30

### **General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions**

Opening remarks by the Committee Chair;  
Briefing by Senior OSCE Officials followed by a question/answer session;  
Discussion led by the Rapporteur on the subjects to be considered at the Annual Session in Edinburgh followed by general debate

12.30-14.30

### **Lunch break**

14.30-17.00

### **Closing Joint Session of the three General Committees**

- Call to order;
- Address by the OSCE Secretary General followed by a question/answer session;
- Report by the OSCE PA Special representative on the gender issue followed by a debate;
- Reports by the Chairs of the three General Committees;
- Concluding statement by the OSCE PA President