



**Report of the
Canadian Parliamentary Delegation
of the
OSCE - Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association
to the
Expanded Bureau Meeting of the
Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE
Copenhagen, Denmark
April 24, 2006**

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In preparation for the Assembly's 15th Annual Session to be held in Brussels, Belgium on July 3-7, 2006, the Expanded Bureau of the Assembly met in Copenhagen on 24 April. Chaired by OSCE PA President Alcee L. Hastings, the meeting brought together the PA's Vice-Presidents, Treasurer and Officers of the three General Committees to discuss Assembly activities and to prepare for upcoming events.

The Members were welcomed to Copenhagen by Kristian Pihl Lorentzen, Head of the Danish Delegation, who stressed the importance of the OSCE PA's work. In particular, Mr. Lorentzen remarked on the importance and relevance of the PA's election observation programme. President Hastings reported on his recent activities, including on his official visits to Spain and to Portugal, and on his leadership of the OSCE election observation missions to Belarus and Ukraine.

Following the President's report, Members discussed the election activities of the Assembly, and its co-operation with other institutions.

The Expanded Bureau was also briefed by the Rapporteurs of the General Committees on their draft reports and resolutions, which they are preparing for the Annual Session. The Members applauded the excellent work of all of the Rapporteurs, and provided input on the draft reports.

The Assembly Treasurer, Senator Jerahmiel S. Grafstein, reported to the Expanded Bureau that the International Secretariat continues to function well within budget, and that the independent auditors remain fully satisfied with the financial running of the Secretariat. Senator Grafstein also presented his proposed budget, to be approved during the Annual Session in Brussels, for the next fiscal year.

Secretary General Spencer Oliver reported on the work of the International Secretariat in supporting the activities of the President, Special Representatives, Ad Hoc Committees and Assembly Members. Deputy Secretary General Vital Evseyev also informed the Expanded Bureau that preparations for the Brussels Session are proceeding very well.

Vice-President Tone Tingsgård reported on the recent trip to Georgia by the Ad Hoc Committee on Abkhazia (Georgia), and on the side-event that she had organized as Special Representative on Gender Issues during the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

The Sub-Committee on the Rules of Procedure, chaired by Mr. Pieter DeCrem (Belgium), also met in Copenhagen on Sunday April 23 to consider proposed changes to the Assembly's Rules.

The OSCE PA is the parliamentary dimension of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, whose 55 participating States span the geographical area from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

The primary task of the 317 member Assembly is to facilitate Interparliamentary dialogue, an important aspect of the overall effort to meet the challenges of democracy throughout the OSCE area. Recognized as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, the OSCE is a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post conflict rehabilitation in its area. The Parliamentary Assembly, originally established by the 1990 Paris Summit to promote greater involvement in the OSCE by national parliaments, has grown into a very active and esteemed member of the OSCE family.

Respectfully submitted,

The Honourable Senator Consiglio Di Nino
Director, OSCE
Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association

Travel Costs

ASSOCIATION	OSCE - Canada-Europe Parliamentary Association	
ACTIVITY	Expended Bureau Meeting	
DESTINATION	Copenhagen, Denmark	
DATES	April 21-25, 2006	
SENATORS	Hon. Jerahmiel S. Grafstein, Senator	
MEMBERS		
STAFF		
TRANSPORTATION	AIR	\$ 5,989.14
	GROUND	\$ 87.00
ACCOMMODATION	\$ 606.10	
HOSPITALITY	\$ 0	
PER DIEMS	\$ 289.38	
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$ 0	
MISCELLANEOUS/REGISTRATION FEES	\$ 0	
TOTAL	\$ 6,971.62	