

### Current Information from the International Secretariat

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- From 23-24 May the Chair of the Parliamentary Team on Moldova, Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen and Team Member Mrs. Tone Tinggard visited Moscow to discuss the situation in Moldova with representatives of the Russian State Duma and of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The visit was part of a series of consultations the Team is conducting in preparing a Supplementary Item on Moldova to be presented at the Ninth Annual Session in Bucharest. The Team will visit Moscow again on 8 and 9 June 2000. Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen will report to the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 1 June 2000. The Team was accompanied by Deputy Secretary General Mr. Pentti Vänäänen.
- From 29 May to 2 June 2000, President Degn is visiting Russia and Azerbaijan. In Moscow Mrs. Degn is meeting with Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov and the Chairman of the State Duma and Vice-President of the OSCE PA, Mr. Gennady Seleznev. Mrs. Degn will discuss recent OSCE developments and the upcoming OSCE PA Annual Session. President Degn will also discuss the recommendations in the OSCE/ODIHR's Final Report on the Russian Presidential Elections of March 2000. While in Azerbaijan, President Degn, will meet with the President of Azerbaijan Mr. Heydar Aliyev and the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Vilayat Guliyev. Mrs. Degn will also have talks with parliamentary representatives and the Chairman of the Constitutional Court, Mr. Khanlar Hajiyev. Mrs Degn is accompanied by PA Senior Staff Member Ms. Tina Schon, who also accompanied the President during her recent visits to Georgia and Armenia.
- Mr. Jan Jooren, Counsellor for Press and Public Affairs of the International Secretariat attended the third Public Affairs Roundtable on 17 to 19 May 2000 in Vienna. The Roundtable brings together Spokespersons and Media Focal Points from all OSCE Missions and Institutions to improve co-ordination and discuss ways to better promote the OSCE.
- Deputy Secretary General Vitaly Evseyev visited Cyprus from 22 to 25 May, in preparation for the next Seminar on National Minorities which will be held in Limassol, Cyprus, from 2-6 October 2000, in conjunction with a meeting of the Expanded Bureau. The theme of the Seminar will be "Organized Crime and Corruption".
- On 15 to 17 May, in preparation for the Annual Session, Deputy Secretary General, Mr. Vitaly Evseyev, Press Counsellor, Mr. Jan Jooren and General Services Officer, Mr. Kurt Andersen visited Bucharest. They inspected the premises and hotels and briefed representatives of the press and diplomatic corps stationed in Bucharest.
- On 1 June, the Chairman of the ad hoc Working Group on Belarus, Mr. Adrian Severin, will visit Moscow on the invitation of OSCE Vice-President and Speaker of the Russian State Duma, Mr. Gennady Seleznev. On the agenda are the ongoing discussions between the Government of Belarus and the Opposition on the organization of parliamentary elections next autumn. Mr. Severin will be accompanied by Deputy Secretary General Vitaly Evseyev.
- As of 1 June Mr. Paul LeGendre will join the International Secretariat. Mr. LeGendre, has a Masters Degree in International Affairs from Columbia University New York. He speaks fluent Russian and French, is an expert on human rights and democratic development, and has worked for the International League for Human Rights and for The Committee to Protect Journalists.
- **9<sup>th</sup> Annual Session:** The Secretariat has sent copies of the Draft Resolution of the three General Committees in all languages to Heads and Secretaries of Delegations. Committee Reports have been sent in most languages and the Bucharest Brochure in English has been mailed. Reports in all languages and additional brochures and other materials will be sent within the next two weeks.

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