



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

# **Parliamentary Seminar on Regional Cooperation - The Nordic and Central Asian Experiences**



**norden**

Nordic Council

**Oslo, 10-11 December 2007**



## Seminar Overview

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA) and the Nordic Council organized a parliamentary seminar in Oslo, Norway, on regional cooperation for parliamentarians from Central Asia and the Nordic countries. The two-day Seminar, 10-11 December 2007, was a unique initiative, bringing parliamentarians from the two regions together to exchange views and experiences on a variety of issues.

The Seminar was hosted by the Norwegian Parliament. Participants included Central Asian and Nordic parliamentarians as well as representatives of the OSCE field missions in Central Asia.

Discussions focused on issues of cross-border cooperation, with parliamentarians sharing their respective experiences in energy and water resource management, environmental issues and other issues of common concern. Participants also discussed main obstacles to regional cooperation in pressing environmental and energy issues, possible solutions to address these regional problems and potential transfer of experience between the Nordic and Central Asian states.

This Seminar is part of a series of parliamentary events designed to deepen dialogue between Central Asian legislators and other parliamentarians from the OSCE area, allowing them the opportunity to share experience in regional cooperation.

The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen, Special Representative of the OSCE PA for Central Asia, and Mr. Dagfinn Høybråten, President of the Nordic Council and Member of Parliament Norway. The next Seminar of this series is scheduled to take place in Turkmenistan in Spring 2008.



# Summary of Discussions

## Introduction

Speaker: *Kimmo Kiljunen, OSCE PA Special Representative for Central Asia, Member of Parliament, Finland*



Mr. Kiljunen opened the session by welcoming all participants to Oslo and noted positively the strong representation of parliamentarians and OSCE mission representatives from Central Asia, in spite of upcoming elections and national holidays in the region. The OSCE PA Special Representative for Central Asia briefly outlined objectives of his work and of this Seminar. He emphasized the growing importance of the region on the international arena and within the OSCE and stated that the objective of the OSCE PA is to facilitate cooperation between parliamentarians from Central Asia and urge them to participate more actively in the work of the Assembly. Noting that the next annual session of the OSCE PA will be held in Kazakhstan's capital - Astana, Mr. Kiljunen emphasized that the OSCE PA would like to make the Parliamentary Assembly more present in the region. Finally, referring to the topic of the Seminar, he expressed his hope that Nordic and Central Asian parliamentarians will share their experiences in regional cooperation and possibly further implement successful models for cooperation in their respective regions. He concluded by noting that this Seminar is the first in a series of events for Central Asian parliamentarians. The topic and venue of the next event will be decided by participants in Oslo.



## Cooperation in the Nordic Region: The Nordic Council in the past, present and future

Speaker: *Dagfinn Høybråten, President of the Nordic Council and Member of Parliament, Norway*



Mr. Høybråten welcomed participants to Oslo on behalf of the Nordic Council and the Norwegian Parliament. He opened his speech by reminding participants that the date and topic of the Seminar coincides with the Nobel Peace Prize Award ceremony in Oslo. Mr. Høybråten gave a brief historical overview of the work of the Nordic Council on promoting closer regional cooperation. He noted that despite a long history of armed conflict and rivalries in the past, cooperation in the Nordic region started earlier and has been more dynamic than in the rest of Europe in the 20<sup>th</sup> century. For instance, the Nordic region was in the lead in introducing a visa free zone in Europe 40 years before the Schengen zone was established. The President of the Nordic Council stressed that close cultural and linguistic links served as a bridge connecting countries and facilitating close cooperation in various spheres. Nordic countries, however, do have significant differences in their approaches. A degree of competition is still present, but it is precisely the differences and competition that create good dynamics for cooperation. It urges members to find common interests rather than solely pursue their national interests. Mr. Høybråten emphasized that the Nordic Council is designed to give each member an equal voice and to make small countries stronger politically. In addition, it is designed to preserve the various cultures and languages in the area. According to Mr. Høybråten, the Nordic Council has become a framework for discussing problems in relaxed social settings and building friendly political and personal relations between parliamentarians across the region. Finally, Mr. Høybråten highlighted that protection of the environment and climate change are central themes in the work of the Nordic Council today.

**Speaker:** *Morten Høglund, Head of the Norwegian Delegation to the OSCE PA, Member of Parliament, Norway*

Mr. Høglund welcomed the participants to Norway, and highlighted that the Norwegian Delegation to the OSCE PA has placed increased focus on the Central Asia region. The Delegation has made several visits to the region in recent months, including Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan and Kazakhstan. Parliamentarians have actively participated in election observation and other OSCE-related missions and events in Central Asia. Norwegian parliamentarians are very interested in the developments in Central Asia, and look forward to building stronger multi-lateral and bilateral ties with the OSCE participating States from this region.



**Working Session on Climate Change: Challenges and possibilities in the Nordic region and in Central Asia**



**Speaker:** *Ivar Kristiansen, Member of Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Norway*

Mr. Kristiansen opened his address by briefing participants about the importance of climate change for the Nordic region. Norway is currently trying to reach a national consensus in its policies on this issue. He commended the efforts of Al Gore, the winner of this year's Nobel Peace Prize, for bringing the issue to the top of the political agenda worldwide.

Noting the complexities of climate change problems, he expressed optimism about the potential of the region to confront the issue through a common regional approach. The Nordic region has been especially successful in cooperating in energy sharing and developing renewable energy resources. In addition to a common Nordic energy market, each member state of the



Nordic Council specializes on production of renewable energy (wind power in Denmark, geothermal energy in Iceland and hydro-electric power in Norway). Having reminded participants of the alarming forecasts on growing global energy demands and global warming, Mr. Kristiansen reiterated that major political will is required in order to bridge the use of fossil fuel and renewable energy by modern societies. In his view, national parliaments can play an important role in building national and regional consensus on the issue. On the national level, parliaments play an important oversight role. This role, however, has been less influential on the international arena. He emphasized that inter-parliamentary cooperation is an important complement to the inter-government negotiations on climate change. Through a common foreign policy vision, the Nordic countries, within the framework of the European Parliament, are trying to put pressure on the big “polluters” such as China, USA and Brazil to sign the Kyoto protocol.

### **Working Session on Climate Change: Kazakhstan**



**Speaker: *Kairat Ichshanov, Senator, Parliament of Kazakhstan***

Mr. Ishchanov began his address by thanking the OSCE PA and the Nordic Council for organizing the Seminar. He also expressed his hope that such events will facilitate broad parliamentary dialogue in the run up to the next annual meeting of the OSCE PA in Astana. Mr.

Ishchanov thanked participants for their support to Kazakhstan's bid to chair the OSCE in 2010. Noting the strategic location and Kazakhstan's economic growth, he stressed that the country is in a strong position to promote closer regional cooperation in Central Asia. Given the location and natural resources of the region, economic integration is imperative for achieving sustainable economic growth in Central Asia. Kazakhstan closely cooperates with neighbours within the framework of bilateral working groups on heavy industry, tourism and agriculture.

Turning to environmental issues in Kazakhstan, the Speaker described environmental threats ranging from the desiccation of the Aral Sea and pollution of the Caspian Sea to environmental degradation in the former nuclear testing sites and air pollution caused by factories. Global environmental problems such as the reduction of biodiversity, deforestation and climate change are equally threatening to the environment of Kazakhstan.

In describing the government's efforts to address environmental problems, he focused on the Kazakh government's efforts to monitor and limit CO<sub>2</sub> emission in the country. To this end, the government is planning on introducing quotas and state inspections of CO<sub>2</sub> emitting factories. Mr. Ishchanov said that in drafting relevant laws, Kazakh lawmakers are using similar legislation adopted by the EU as examples.

Most of the environmental problems in the region are of trans-boundary nature and require a common approach by all Central Asian states. Mr. Ichshanov supported initiatives to hold the next Seminar in Central Asia, which will allow representatives of all Central Asian states to continue this regional discussion. Similar to Norway's position, Kazakhstan as a major oil and gas exporter, and has recently introduced ecological taxes for major emitters of CO<sub>2</sub> and sulphur in the country.



## Working Session on Climate Change: Turkmenistan

Speaker: *Geldymurat Allaliev, Member of Parliament, Turkmenistan*



Mr. Allaliev stressed the importance of environmental issues within the policies of the Turkmen government. The Turkmen authorities have already developed a solid legal basis for environmental protection. In addition to domestic efforts to protect the environment, Turkmenistan is a signatory to all major conventions, including the Kyoto protocol. In addressing the environmental problems, the Turkmen government closely cooperates with UNDP, UNEP, WHO and TACIS. When planning major construction projects in the country, Turkmenistan always carefully considers the environmental impact. Mr. Allaliev stressed that the Turkmen government recognizes the importance of research and development and thus has committed significant resources to scientific research on protection of rare species of plants and animals, along with the development of special protected areas. As for energy production and exports, he noted that Turkmenistan has implemented all international norms of environmental safety in extraction and transit of natural gas.

## Working Session on Border Cooperation

- The role of parliaments in decreasing water pollution caused by industry and agriculture: challenges and lessons learned.
- The role of parliaments in strengthening cross-border cooperation, and coordination in environmentally friendly utilization of water resources.

## Introduction

Speaker: *Kent Olsson, Member of the Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Sweden*



Mr. Olsson noted that the very fact that most environmental problems cannot be constrained within national borders calls for closer regional cooperation. His presentation focused on the efforts of the Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference (BSPC) to improve protection of the Baltic Sea.

Having described environmental problems confronting the Baltic Sea as a result of industrial waste pollution, Mr. Olsson said that an improved protection of the Baltic Sea is a current priority of the organization. Like other regional parliamentary assemblies, this body aims to highlight issues of concern, bringing them to the attention of the public and exerting pressure on their respective governments. Most recently, the BSPC adopted an Action Plan on the protection of the Baltic Sea. The Action Plan proposes 25 recommendations and sets a clear limit on pollution in the area. The document was the first instance when parliamentarians managed to reach an agreement on reduction of pollution in the area. Thus, the document represents a good example of the shared responsibility in the Nordic region, which hopefully will encompass wider geographic areas in the future.

The Conference cooperates on environmental issues beyond the Nordic region. Most recently, BSPC has become an important discussion forum for the potential environmental implications of the Nord Stream pipeline, which will cross several Nordic countries and the Baltic Sea. Mr. Olsson expressed his hope that emerging environmental problems will be addressed by closer regional cooperation globally.

## Working Session on Border Cooperation: Iceland

Speaker: *Valgerdur Sverrisdottir, Former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland*



Ms. Sverrisdottir welcomed the initiative to share experiences of inter-parliamentary cooperation between Nordic countries and Central Asian states. She gave a brief overview of Iceland's history, noting that Iceland has risen from poverty to prosperity in a relatively short period. The backbone of economic success and welfare is the “know-how” on the use of renewable energy resources coupled with an active international cooperation. Iceland's current challenge is to transform its economy from consumption of fossil fuel to hydropower and geothermal power. Although she stated that Iceland has achieved significant progress (70 percent of total energy consumption is supplied by renewable energy resources), cars and ships still operate on fossil fuels.

As Iceland is facing growing development demands, sustainability is becoming key. Talking about economic prosperity of Iceland, Ms. Sverrisdottir highlighted the importance of striking a balance between harnessing and protecting nature. Currently, Iceland invests heavily in the protection of the environment and has minimized the number of projects that could be potentially harmful to the environment. There are a number of ongoing governmental projects to map out all potential hydropower and geothermal projects and to evaluate their economic profitability against potential environmental hazards.

Ms. Sverrisdottir reminded the participants that Iceland has not always been prosperous. After gaining independence in 1944 Iceland was a poor country with little to offer investors. But with the start of the Cold War, the country gained strategic significance and attracted major foreign investment. She compared the post-independence development of Iceland to the situation that many Central Asian states are currently facing, and

stressed that it is essential to have strong legislature to succeed in this transformation. She noted that states, rich in natural and human resources can underpin prosperity and welfare provided that they are harnessed in a sustainable and socially just manner. Iceland's greatest challenge is to meet development demands, harness energy and protect the environment at the same time.

### **Working Session on Border Cooperation: Tajikistan**

**Speaker: *Mirzosharif Islomiddinov, Member of Parliament, Tajikistan***



Mr. Islomiddinov gave a brief overview of the energy potential as well as energy-related problems in the region. Emphasizing that Tajikistan is rich in water resources, he stated that his country has a great potential to become a supplier of renewable resources of electricity to Central Asia. However, due to the lack of regional cooperation in water management and energy sharing, and in spite of the great potential to produce hydropower, Mr. Islomiddinov said that Tajikistan suffers from severe electricity shortages during wintertime. In order to fully realize its energy potential and recover from civil war, Tajikistan requires large investments. The Tajik Government is actively seeking foreign investments for these projects. Currently, state resources are directed toward improvements on internal infrastructure and construction of interstate roads.

He stressed that water management remains one of the major problems for the region. Using the example of the desiccation of the Aral Sea, he pointed to the dire consequences that a lack of cooperation in water management may cause. The collapse of the Soviet Union and the regional energy grid undermined energy security of upstream states -Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan, which rely on imports of gas and electricity from neighbouring countries. Furthermore, he added that upstream states

do not receive any compensation from neighbouring water consuming countries for costs of maintenance of the water dams incurred by Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan. Mr. Islomiddinov noted that although the problem has been discussed between the Presidents of Tajikistan and Uzbekistan there has been limited progress in resolving the issue. He concluded by expressing his hope that the problem will be resolved in the near future as it is not only a political issue but affects the well-being of the population in the region as a whole.

### **Working Session on Border Cooperation: Kyrgyzstan**

**Speaker: *Ashyrbek Temirbaev, Secretary General, Parliament of Kyrgyzstan***



Mr. Temirbaev thanked the OSCE PA and the Nordic Council for organizing the forum for such an interesting and fruitful discussion. He told participants that, like Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan is rich in water resources and is a major supplier of water to the rest of the countries in the region. He also emphasized that there has been a lack of cooperation on water management in the region since the collapse of the Soviet Union. As in Tajikistan, the lack of regional cooperation in water management leads to annual energy shortages in Kyrgyzstan and a decay of water reservoirs. He expressed an opinion that water-consuming countries should pay for the use of water coming from Kyrgyzstan in accordance with international rates, since they fail to provide electricity and gas in the winter.

Elaborating on the regional problems of water management, he furthermore stressed that one of the reasons for a lack of cooperation is the absence of coherent agreements on water usage. Present agreements provide only a framework for the cooperation without specific implementation and protection mechanisms included. In addition to environmental problems, mismanagement of water resources directly

leads to economic and social problems particularly in the rural areas affected by draught and floods.

To address these problems he called for the establishment of a regional basin institute or trans-boundary river committee. In this regard he commanded successful cooperation between Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan on managing water facilities in the Chui and Talas rivers. Turning to domestic environmental problems of Kyrgyzstan, he stated that reducing industrial waste and water pollution has been a priority for Kyrgyzstan's environmental policy. Legislation regulating domestic water usage remains imperfect and needs the incorporation of clear enforcement mechanisms to make it better.

### **Working Session on Border Cooperation: OSCE in Kazakhstan**

Speaker: *Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of the OSCE Center in Astana*



Ambassador Vikki welcomed the initiative to facilitate parliamentary dialogue on this topic. He noted positively the OSCE decision to satisfy Kazakhstan's bid for Chairmanship in 2010.

Mr. Vikki gave a brief overview of environmental projects implemented by the OSCE Center in Astana. Noting the importance of environmental education, he noted that one of the priority areas within the environmental dimension of the OSCE Center is to support projects aimed at raising environmental awareness. In addition to that, he noted that the OSCE Center also implements a number of projects to address regional environmental problems. One such project provided assistance to the Governments of Kyrgyzstan and Kazakhstan with drafting a water sharing agreement of the Talas River. The project lasted four years and aimed to assist both countries in achieving a comprehensive water-sharing agreement drawing on successful experiences of other countries in managing resources of



trans-boundary rivers. In its work along the economic and environmental dimension, the OSCE Center will further support environmental projects that address regional environmental problems and facilitate closer regional cooperation.

### **Working Session on Border Cooperation: Discussion**

Participants commented on the lack of cooperation in the management of water resources. Obligations in water sharing and energy exchange in Central Asia were discussed. It was noted that each country has its own national interest, but the challenge lies in finding a solution that will address common regional problems. Some countries have a vested interest in receiving more water for irrigation during the summer time and avoiding floods during the winter. Kazakhstan noted that it has invested heavily in the restoration of the northern part of Aral Sea, which is now returning to its previous levels. Participants noted that each state should think about the interests of the whole region when using water resources.



## Working Session on Energy, Transport and the Environment

### Working Session on Energy, Transport and the Environment: Norway

Speaker: *Inge Lønning, Head of the Norwegian Delegation to the Nordic Council and Member of Parliament, Norway*



Mr. Lønning described the energy policy of European and Nordic countries. He stated that the goal of the EU and the Nordic countries is to develop energy markets with secure energy supplies in compliance with principles of sustainable development. Using the example of suspension of gas supplies from Russia to Europe in January 2006, he warned about the current challenges

confronting the European energy security.

Mr. Lønning described the Nordic experience in establishing a common electricity market, Nordel, in 1963. Reminding participants about the benefits of cooperation, he spoke of how the integration of the Nordic electricity market has led to cost-efficient utilization of power plants and minimization of production costs. He expressed his hope that the same principles of cooperation and trade that served as a lay foundation for the Pan-Nordic electricity system could be applied to the development and integration of a Nordic natural gas market. In addition to initiatives to integrate regional energy markets, he noted that each country of the region specializes in the development of renewable energy (wind power in Denmark and geothermal energy in Iceland).

Mr Lønning described cooperation on energy and the environment within the framework of the Arctic Council. One of the most significant achievements of the Council is the Arctic Climate Impact Assessment report, which brought to the public attention the effect of climate change on the environment in the Arctic region. In addition to assessing the impact of global environmental changes, the Arctic Council has focused

its efforts on assessing potential local environmental threats to the region from oil and gas exploitation. This will be discussed in the forthcoming Arctic Oil and Gas Assessment and Arctic Marine Shipping Assessment reports. These initiatives facilitate a sharing of knowledge, experience and assessment on common issues of concern and play an important role in promoting cooperation between the countries. However, it is the job of politicians, including parliamentarians, to make sure that subsequent reports become a living and dynamic instrument for the future.

### **Working Session on Energy, Transport and the Environment:** **Kyrgyzstan**

Speaker: *Ashyrbek Temirbaev, Secretary General, Parliament of Kyrgyzstan*



Mr. Temirbaev focused on the role of the parliament in improving environmental and energy security in Kyrgyzstan. Referring to Kyrgyzstan's Strategic Development Paper 2007-2010, he emphasized that development of energy resources, the mining and transport sectors are given a central role in the economic development of the country. Realizing this economic growth potential, the parliament of Kyrgyzstan aims to create a legislative framework for the full-scale realization of the energy projects. Previous laws on the use of water resources have failed to provide comprehensive legislative frameworks for private investments. Recent amendments adopted by the Kyrgyz Parliament create a legal framework for investment into strategic hydropower projects. At the same time, the adopted law took into account the concerns of parliamentarians about the privatisation of strategic sectors and placed certain restrictions on the privatisation of the state's stake in energy projects.

Emphasizing interdependence between energy and the environment, Mr. Temirbaev noted that a development of hydropower projects could



reduce dependency on fossil fuels in the entire region. In this regard he mentioned the Bishkek Declaration (signed during the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit in August 2007), which recognizes energy as a foundation for sustainable economic growth and security and thus prioritises closer regional cooperation in this direction. Kyrgyzstan has a very young parliament, and therefore Kyrgyz parliamentarians look forward to learning from the experience of inter-parliamentary organizations in developing legislation on regional cooperation.



## **Working Session on Energy, Transport and the Environment: Discussion**

Parliamentarians discussed current challenges to closer regional integration, comparing experience in the different geographic regions.

It was noted that the discussion tended to focus on national interests. Most cooperation in the region is done on a bilateral rather than a multilateral basis. The proposal to create a Central Asian Union, with the aim of promoting multilateral cooperation was discussed. This format of cooperation would be useful for resolving regional energy and water problems as well as a wide spectrum of regional security and socio-economic problems.

Parliamentarians discussed the viability of a Central Asian Union without Uzbekistan. While many are interested in closer regional cooperation, in principle, parliamentarians concluded that it will take all states in the region to cooperate in joint initiatives.

In discussions it was reiterated that through this regional Seminars, parliamentarians have been provided with information on various models of cooperation in the Nordic region, such as the Nordic Council, the Arctic Council and the Baltic Sea Council. In their debates parliamentarians also focused on possible applications of regional cooperation strategies in the Central Asia region.

### **Closing Session:**

The co-chairs from the OSCE PA and the Nordic Council thanked all the participants for attending the Seminar and actively participating in the discussions. Particular gratitude was offered to the Norwegian Parliament for its support in organizing this event. Participants commented on the unique format of this event – noting that while these types of discussions often take place in the executive, regional parliamentary meetings are less frequent. It was noted that the Seminar format allowed for fruitful, open discussions on cooperation in regional challenges. Participants concluded that all issues covered, including controversial political debates, were discussed openly and frankly among the legislators. Legislators



from Nordic and Central Asian states noted that discussions between parliamentarians tend to be more open than inter-governmental meetings, and expressed an interest in continuing these regional meetings. On behalf of the OSCE PA, Mr. Kiljunen proposed to continue such seminars with the next event in Ashgabat in Spring 2008.



Discussion continues on the sidelines of the seminar:



*From left to right: (Abduali Toirov (OSCE Centre in Dushanbe), Kimmo Kiljunen (OSCE PA Special Representative for Central Asia) and Markus Karlsen (OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre)*



*Mr. Ashyrbek Temirbaev (Parliament of Kyrgyzstan), Ambassador Ivar Vikki (OSCE Centre in Astana) and Mr. Nurbek Satvaldiev (Parliament of Kyrgyzstan)*



*Left to right: Kalrat Ichshanov and Mirzosharif Islomiddinov*

Participants are given a tour of the Norwegian Parliament



## Annex I: Seminar Programme\*

### Parliamentary Seminar on regional cooperation – the Nordic and Central Asian experiences

#### Sunday, 9 December 2007

Participants' arrival and accommodation in Oslo:

Rica Victoria Hotel (200 meters from the Parliament, airport express train stop: Nationalteatret), Rosenkrantzgate 13, Phone: + 4724147000

20:00 Informal dinner at Grand Café, Grand Hotel in Karl Johan's gate

#### Monday, 10 December 2007

09:00-09:30 Registration of participants  
Room N-202, entrance from Prinsensgate 26  
The Norwegian Parliament

09:30-10:30 **Introduction:**  
The OSCE PA and Central Asia  
(*Speaker: Kimmo Kiljunen, OSCE PA*)  
Cooperation in the Nordic Region: The Nordic Council in the past, present and future.  
(*Speaker: Dagfinn Høybråten, Nordic Council*)

10:30-11:00 Coffee Break

11:00-12:30 **Working Session 1: Climate change.**  
Challenges and possibilities in the Nordic region and Central Asia.  
How can inter-state cooperation promote solutions?  
*Co-Chairs: OSCE PA and the Nordic Council*  
Short Introduction by Nordic Council,  
(*Speaker: Ivar Kristiansen*)  
Short introduction by Kazakhstan  
DISCUSSION

12:30-14:00 Lunch in the Parliament restaurant, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor in the main building

14:00-15:30 **Working Session 2: Cross-border cooperation.**  
*Co-Chairs: OSCE PA and the Nordic Council*  
Sub-topics:  
- The role of parliaments in decreasing water pollution caused by industry and agriculture? Challenges and lessons learned.  
- The role of parliaments in strengthening cross-border cooperation and coordination in environmentally-friendly utilization of water resources.  
Introduction by the Nordic Council  
(*Speaker: Kent Olsson and Valgerdur Sverrisdottir*)  
Introduction by Uzbekistan (tbc)  
Introduction by Tajikistan

\* as of 7.12.2008

- 15:30-16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:00-17:30 **Working Session 2: Cross-border cooperation (continued).**  
DISCUSSION  
*Chair: Kimmo Kiljunen*
- 18:30 Transport from Hotel Rica Victoria
- 19:00 **Dinner at Voksenåsen**
- 22.30 Transport back to the hotel

## Tuesday, 11 December 2007

- 09:00-10:30 **Working Session 3: Energy, Transport and the Environment.**  
How can regional cooperation stimulate a sound development in energy production?  
*Co-Chairs: OSCE PA and the Nordic Council*  
Introduction by OSCE PA/Nordic Council  
*(Speaker: Inge Lønning)*  
Introduction by Kyrgyzstan  
Introduction by Turkmenistan  
DISCUSSION
- 10:30-11:00 Coffee Break
- 11:00-12:00 **Working Session 3: Energy, Transport and the Environment (discussion continued)**
- 12:00-13:30 Lunch in the Mezzanine, the Parliament
- 13:30-14:30 **Conclusion:**  
Concluding remarks by parliamentarians/representatives of Central Asian countries Nordic Council, OSCE PA  
*(Speakers: Kimmo Kiljunen, Dagfinn Høybråten,)*
- 15:00 Cultural programme and departures
- 17:30 Informal dinner at restaurant D/S Louise at Aker brygge

## Annex II: List of Participants

From OSCE participating States in Central Asia and OSCE field presences:

### Kazakhstan

Parliament:

Mr. Kairat Ichshanov, Senator

Mr. Oralbay Abdykarimov, Senator

Ms. Svetlana Bychkova, Deputy Chair on Legislation and Judiciary Reform Committee, Majilis (legislative chamber of Parliament)

Ms. Lyazzat Ryssymbetova, Chief Expert, International Department, Senate, Kazakhstan

OSCE Centre: Ambassador Ivar Vikki, Head of OSCE Centre in Astana

### Kyrgyzstan

Parliament:

Mr. Ashyrbek Temirbaev, Secretary General, Parliament of Kyrgyzstan

Mr. Nurbek Satvaldiev, Head of Section, Inter-Parliamentary Relations, Parliament of Kyrgyzstan

OSCE Centre: Ms. Guljamal Tokombaeva, Senior Programme Assistant, Political/Military Dimension, OSCE Centre in Bishkek

### Tajikistan

Parliament:

Mr. Olim Salimov, Member of Majlisi namoyandagon Majlisi Oli (legislative chamber of Parliament)

Mr. Asomudin Saidov, Member of Majlisi namoyandagon Majlisi Oli (legislative chamber of Parliament)

Mr. Mirzosharif Islomidinov, Member of Majlisi namoyandagon Majlisi Oli (legislative chamber of Parliament)

OSCE Centre: Mr. Abduali Toirov, Assistant Political Officer, OSCE Centre in Dushanbe

### Turkmenistan

Parliament

Mr. Geldimyrat Allaliev, Member of Mejlis, Parliament of Turkmenistan

Ms. Yazdursun Gurbannazarova, Member of Mejlis, Parliament of Turkmenistan

### From Nordic states:

#### Norway

Mr. Dagfinn Høybråten, President of the Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Norway

Mr. Inge Lønning, Head of the Norwegian Delegation to the Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Norway

Mr. Morten Høglund, Head of the Norwegian Delegation to the OSCE PA, Member of Parliament, Norway

Ms. Berit Brørby, Vice President of the Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Norway

Mr. Ivar Kristiansen, Member of Parliament, Norway

**Finland**

Mr. Kimmo Kiljunen, OSCE PA Special Representative for Central Asia, Vice President of the OSCEPA, Member of Parliament, Finland  
Ms. Gunilla Carlander, Secretary of the Finnish Delegation to the OSCEPA

**Iceland**

Ms. Valgerdur Sverrisdottir, Member of Parliament of Iceland, former Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Mr. Arni Pall Arnason, Member of the Nordic Council, Member of Parliament, Iceland

**Sweden**

Mr. Kent Olsson, Member of the Nordic Council, Member of **Parliament, Sweden**  
Ms. Eva Smekal, Head of the Swedish Secretariat to the Nordic Council

**Denmark**

Mr. Henrik Hagemann, Secretary General of the Danish secretariat to the Nordic Council

**From the Nordic Council Secretariat and the Norwegian Parliament:**

Ms. Ulrica Helgesson, Senior Adviser, Nordic Council Secretariat in Copenhagen  
Mr. Kjell Myhre-Jensen, Head of Secretariat, Nordic Council/the Storting (Norwegian parliament)  
Ms. Herborg Fiskaa Alvsåker, International Secretariat, Norwegian Parliament

**From the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and the OSCEPA Secretariat:**

Ms. Tina Schoen, Deputy Secretary General of the OSCE PA  
Mr. Markus Karlsen, Policy Support Officer / Central Asia, OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC)  
Ms. Anna Chernova, Programme Officer for Central Asia, OSCE PA International Secretariat  
Mr. Dadodjan Azimov, Research Fellow, OSCE PA International Secretariat



# The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

(Photo: Philippe Nobile)

The OSCE PA is the parliamentary dimension of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, whose 56 States span the geographical area from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

The primary task of the 320 member Assembly is to facilitate inter-parliamentary 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.

The basic objectives of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly are:

- To assess the implementation of OSCE objectives by participating States;
- To discuss subjects addressed during meetings of the Ministerial Council and the summits of Heads of State or Government;
- To develop and promote mechanisms for the prevention and resolution of conflicts;
- To support the strengthening and consolidation of democratic institutions in OSCE participating States;
- To contribute to the development of OSCE institutional structures and of relations between existing OSCE Institutions.

To pursue these objectives, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly employs a variety of means:

- A Final Declaration and a number of resolutions and recommendations are adopted each year at the Annual Session in July;
- Leadership of election observation activities in the OSCE area;
- Committee work addresses important contemporary international issues;
- Programmes and Seminars designed to develop and strengthen democracy including an extensive election observation programme.

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