

## Krivokapic meets with U.S. Helsinki Commission members



Roger Wicker, Ranko Krivokapic and Ben Cardin

OSCE PA President Ranko Krivokapic (Montenegro) met with members of the United States Helsinki Commission in Washington Tuesday, holding discussions with Senators Benjamin Cardin and Roger Wicker, as well as members of the House of Representatives including former Assembly President Alcee Hastings, PA Vice-President Robert Aderholt and Congressman Mike McIntyre. Secretary

General Spencer Oliver also participated in the meetings, as well as senior Helsinki Commission staff including Mark Milosch, Fred Turner and Robert Hand.

Mr. Krivokapic outlined the goals he hopes to accomplish during his presidency and focused on the role the OSCE has played in assisting his country and its Balkan neighbors with post-conflict development and democracy-building.

In a wide-ranging discussion, interlocutors agreed on the importance of reforming the OSCE and improving the effectiveness of its work. Mr. Krivokapic stressed the need for more parliamentary involvement in the decision-making process of the OSCE, particularly on budgeting, appointments and support for OSCE field operations.

Mr. Krivokapic will have several more meetings in Washington before leaving for New York where he and Secretary General Oliver will meet with UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon on 27 November.

## Vice-President Kanerva leads PA delegation in visit to Moscow



Maria Chepurina, Igor Ivanov, Ilkka Kanerva, Ivan Timofeev and Spencer Oliver

OSCE PA Vice-President Ilkka Kanerva (Finland) and Secretary General Spencer Oliver paid a working visit to Moscow last week, accompanied by Senior Counsellor Semyon

Dzakhayev and Programme Officer Maria Chepurina.

On invitation from the Russian State Duma, the PA delegation attended the Second International Parliamentary Forum on 14 November, under the theme of "Constitution. Democracy. Parliamentarism." Mr. Kanerva and Mr. Oliver spoke at panel discussions during the Forum, sharing views

and experiences on parliamentary diplomacy, democratic values and the role of public opinion.

The PA delegation met with Igor Ivanov, the President of the Russian International Affairs Council (RIAC) and former Minister of Foreign Affairs, to discuss building trust in the OSCE area as well as promoting co-operation with RIAC and the OSCE PA in preparations for the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act.

On the margins of the Forum, Mr. Kanerva and Mr. Oliver met with the Chairman of the State Duma, Sergey Naryshkin, to discuss interaction between the Russian Parliament and the OSCE PA. Mr. Oliver also met with Ivan Soltanovsky, Director of the Department for All-European Co-operation at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation.

## OSCE PA participates in NATO PA Rose-Roth Seminar in Bishkek

OSCE PA Special Representative for Afghanistan, Michel Voisin (France), and Special Representative for Central Asia Thierry Mariani (France) represented the OSCE PA at the NATO PA Rose-Roth Seminar in Bishkek on 13-15 November under the theme, "Afghanistan, Regional Security and the Future of International Co-operation." Also participating were the head of the Danish delegation to the OSCE PA, Peter Juel Jensen, staff of the Danish Parliament, and the head of the delegation to the recent Tajikistan election observation mission, Margareta Cederfelt (Sweden).

Special Representative Mariani arrived in Bishkek following a high-level visit to Mongolia, where he met with the leadership of the Parliament, the Foreign Ministry, and other relevant interlocutors. This OSCE PA visit was facilitated by

the Parliament of Mongolia, which attended its first OSCE PA event at the Autumn Meeting in Budva last month. Mongolia has expressed an interest in hosting an OSCE PA event, as well as an OSCE field presence. Mr. Mariani will report on his regional visits at the OSCE PA Winter Meeting in February.

While in Bishkek, the delegations from Denmark and Sweden received a detailed briefing from the OSCE Centre in Bishkek and held a meeting with the Speaker of the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan, as well as with the delegation of Kyrgyzstan to the OSCE PA.

The OSCE Centre arranged a field visit for the Danish and Swedish members to the village of Tokmok to demonstrate the OSCE's Community Security Initiative programmes in Kyrgyzstan.