

**Report of the Special Representative for Central and Eastern Asia
Vice President Christine Muttonen for the OSCE PA Winter Meeting**

Vienna, 25 February 2016

President Kanerva appointed me as Special Representative for Central and Eastern Asia in January 2016. My mandate's areas of focus are to:

- Encourage active participation by parliamentarians from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan), as well as Mongolia, in the work of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to strengthen parliamentarism in the region;
- Liaise with and support the work of the OSCE field missions in the region, as well as relevant OSCE institutions, international and regional organizations and diplomatic missions;
- Encourage closer contacts between the parliaments in the region to promote greater intra-regional co-operation in all three OSCE dimensions;
- Promote knowledge of the OSCE and its core principles in the OSCE's Asian Partner for Co-operation countries, notably through building inter-parliamentary ties;
- Report to the President of the Assembly on developments in the region, including opportunities for enhanced parliamentary dialogue and further inter-parliamentary co-operation among the Central Asian states and Mongolia, as well as with Eastern Asia.

During the last five weeks I have had

- meetings with several Heads of the OSCE field presences during the regional working group on Central Asia in Vienna
- meetings with the Head of the CPC Amb. Pesko and with the CPC desk officer on Central Asia
- a joint meeting with all Ambassadors from Central Asia and Mongolia
- a meeting with the EU Special Representative for Central Asia Amb. Burian
- informal meetings with the Chinese Embassy and OSCE SG Amb. Zannier

Furthermore I am in contact with the new Head of the Kirghiz Delegation regarding the current situation of the OSCE Academy in Bishkek.

During the OSCE PA Winter Meeting here in Vienna I have scheduled meetings with Heads and Members of Parliamentary Delegations from the region as well as with High Commissioner on National Minorities, Astrid Thors.

Until the Annual Meeting in Tbilisi in July I am planning to:

- attend the EOM in Kazakhstan in March
- meet the Chairman of the PC Amb. Pohl
- attend the “Religions against terrorism” conference in Astana on 31 May followed by a working visit to Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan in the first week of June
- work on further strengthening intra-regional co-operation through regular contacts with the Central Asia parliamentary delegations to the OSCE PA
- have regular contacts and meetings with the Ambassadors of the region and the OSCE Institutions in Vienna.