

# News from Copenhagen

OSCE PA

Number 267 Current Information from the OSCE PA International Secretariat

3 September 2008

## OSCE PA preparing for Fall Meetings in Toronto

Under the general theme of "OSCE in an Open World: Trade, Security and Migration," and with a special session on the crisis in Georgia, members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly are making final preparations for a wide-ranging debate on international affairs at the Assembly's annual Fall Meetings taking place in Toronto, Canada, from 18 to 21 September.

The debate about Georgia will take place on Friday, 19 September. OSCE PA President Emeritus and Special Envoy for Georgia, Goran Lennmarker, will report on his ongoing visit to the region, and representatives from Georgia and Russia as well as from the OSCE are expected to address the delegates.

Around 200 parliamentarians representing 47 OSCE countries are scheduled to attend the Fall Meetings, which are being hosted by the Parliament of Canada. The speakers include Joao Soares, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; David Emerson, Canada's Minister of Foreign

Affairs; Noel A. Kinsella, Speaker of the Senate of Canada; Peter Milliken, Speaker of the House of Commons of Canada; Senator Consiglio Di Nino, head of Canada's delegation to the OSCE PA; Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, OSCE Secretary General, and Janez Lenarcic, Director of OSCE/ODIHR.

Gareth Evans, President and Chief Executive of the International Crisis Group and former foreign minister of Australia, will give the keynote address.

The OSCE PA's Standing Committee meets on Saturday, 20

September, and the Mediterranean Forum meets on Thursday, 18 September.

The Fall Meetings are open to the media. A press conference will be held on Wednesday, 17 September at 14:00 at the Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto.

For the full programme and list of speakers, see our website, [www.oscepa.org](http://www.oscepa.org).



## OSCE PA Special Envoy for Georgia travels to the Caucasus



OSCE Parliamentary Assembly President Emeritus Goran Lennmarker this week is visiting all three countries of the South Caucasus -- Azerbaijan, Georgia and Armenia.

On Monday, he held talks in Azerbaijan's capital Baku with leaders of both the government and parliament, including President Ilham Aliiev. On Wednesday and

Thursday, he visits Georgia and on Friday and Saturday, he will be in Armenia's capital Yerevan.

Mr. Lennmarker was recently appointed Special Envoy for Georgia by OSCE PA President Joao Soares and is also contributing to efforts to secure a peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Mr. Lennmarker, a member of the Swedish parliament, is tasked by the OSCE PA President to work on supporting the conflict settlement process particularly at the parliamentary level. This week's visit is Mr. Lennmarker's first since his appointment as Special Envoy for Georgia. He is being accompanied by Tina Schøn, Deputy Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

### Belarus election observation reminder

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly has received an invitation to observe the parliamentary elections in Belarus which are scheduled for 28 September 2008. President Joao Soares has decided that the OSCE PA will deploy an Election Observation Mission and has appointed Vice-President Anne-Marie Lizin from Belgium to head the OSCE PA Delegation. The OSCE PA mission will work in co-operation with the long-term observation mission deployed by the OSCE/ODIHR.

The International Secretariat will staff the Delegation with Special Representative Andreas Nothelle, Director of Communications Klas Bergman, Programme Officer Anna Chernova, and Logistics Officer Petra Jezkova.

**The deadline for registering to observe the election is 11 September 2008.**