

New Treasurer visits International Secretariat



Left to right: Tina Schoen, Gustavo Pallares, Roberto Battelli, Spencer Oliver, Hans Raidel and Merte Andreasen

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly's new Treasurer, Roberto Battelli (Slovenia), visited the Assembly Headquarters in Copenhagen on 17 and 18 September. This was Mr. Battelli's first working visit to the International Secretariat since being elected Treasurer of the Assembly at the Vilnius Annual Session in July 2009.

In Copenhagen, the new Treasurer was joined by his predecessor, Hans Raidel (Germany).

During the visit, Mr. Battelli was thoroughly briefed by Secretary General Spencer Oliver and Deputy Secretaries General Tina Schoen and Gustavo Pallares on the current state of the Assembly's finances. Plans for the work ahead during the financial year 2009/2010 starting on 1 October were also discussed.

In order to ensure continuity, Mr. Battelli discussed

in detail the financial situation of the Assembly with his predecessor, Mr. Raidel. The Assembly's budget for the year 2009/2010 presented by Mr. Raidel was unanimously approved by the Standing Committee in Vilnius and contains no increases for the coming year. The national contributions to the Assembly will therefore remain exactly the same as the previous year.

The Treasurer also met with the Assembly's auditor, Pernille Dupont and accountant Merte Andreasen.

The current financial year will close on 30 September, and for the 17th year in a row, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will remain within the approved budget.

Mr. Battelli will deliver his first report on the financial situation of the Assembly at the Standing Committee Meeting in Athens on 11 October.

PA participates in Caucasus meetings in London and Yerevan

The PA's Special Representative on Nagorno-Karabakh, President Emeritus Goran Lenmarker (Sweden), participated in a recent conference in London on the security situation in the Caucasus.

The conference, organized jointly by the Royal United Services Institute and the European Azerbaijan Society, took place on 16 and 17 September at Whitehall in London. Called "Security in the Caucasus: Enhancing Cooperation with the European Security Architecture," the purpose of the conference was to provide updated perspectives on a range of issues

currently impacting the future of the Caucasus.

This week, Deputy Secretary General Tina Schoen visits Armenia for an OSCE South Caucasus Regional Heads of Mission meeting on 24 and 25 September.

Hosted by Ambassador Herbert Salber, Director of the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, the meeting, to be held in Armenia's capital Yerevan, will review the international engagement in support of the countries in the region and inter-agency co-operation.

It will also devote attention to recent developments in Armenia and Azerbaijan, including a special review of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.



Goran Lenmarker during a September 2008 visit to Georgia

Declaration available in six official languages

The OSCE PA's Vilnius Declaration, adopted at the 18th Annual Session in Vilnius, Lithuania, is now available in the OSCE's six official languages. To download the document, please visit www.oscepa.org.