

News from Copenhagen

Migliori and Zannier discuss OSCE work in Rome



OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier and PA President Riccardo Migliori meet in Rome.

OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier and OSCE PA President Riccardo Migliori (Italy) met in Rome this week to discuss co-operation within the OSCE, upcoming events of the Organization and the preparatory work being conducted for the OSCE Ministerial Council, to be held 6-7 December in Dublin.

President Migliori was supported by Director of Presidential Administration Roberto Montella from the OSCE PA Liaison Office in Vienna.

Roza Aknazarova represents PA at Prague OSCE forum

Roza Aknazarova, Head of Kyrgyzstan's Delegation to the OSCE PA and Vice-Chair of the PA's Second Committee, represented the Assembly at the concluding meeting of the 20th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum, which took place in Prague on 12-14 September 2012. In her address to the forum, she focused on the importance of sustainable development, human security and environmental security. These issues are becoming a priority for all those who deal with decision-making at all levels of governments and institutions of development, she pointed out.

"Efforts are needed to promote our new update of govern-

ance for positive changes, both within each country and at the international level, in the format of effective aid and mutually beneficial partnership for sustainable development," said Aknazarova, who was elected Vice-Chair of the Second Committee at the PA's Annual Session in Monaco.

She expressed hope that national parliaments and members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will pay greater attention to the oversight functions and mechanisms of parliament to prevent corruption in legislative activities. She urged participating States to use the Economic and Environmental Forum, to promote good governance for positive changes.

OSCE PA staff in Georgia ahead of October elections

In preparation for the 1 October parliamentary elections in Georgia, the OSCE PA has deployed two staff members to the country. Working out of the ODIHR mission in Tbilisi, Senior Advisor to the Special Co-ordinator Andreas Baker and Research Fellow Wesli Turner are working closely with the ODIHR long-term observers and members of the core team in assessing the pre-election environment in Georgia.

Baker and Turner were dispatched because the ODIHR refused to provide long-term observer reports to the OSCE PA as called for in the 1997 Co-operation Agreement, but have reported that co-operation with the core team staff has been good and they have been given full access to the relevant information since their arrival in Tbilisi.

The PA team is preparing for the arrival of the special co-ordinator of the OSCE short-term observer mission, OSCE PA Vice-President Tonino Picula (Croatia), and around

50 other members of the OSCE PA's delegation arriving next week. Picula was appointed by OSCE Chair-in-Office and Irish Deputy Prime Minister Eamon Gilmore on the nomination of PA President Riccardo Migliori.

Picula led a PA delegation, including President Migliori, Secretary General Spencer Oliver and Director of Presidential Administration Roberto Montella, on a three-day pre-election visit to Georgia last month. The delegation met with a wide range of election stakeholders, including the authorities, opposition parties, election administrators, representatives of the media and civil society, as well as members of the international community in Tbilisi.

The PA team currently in Georgia will be joined next week by the team leader, Deputy Secretary General Tina Schoen and Operations Officer Iryna Sabashuk, as well as Oliver, Montella and Communications Director Neil Simon.



Wesli Turner (right) speaks with a long-term observer and local staff member.



Andreas Baker at the ODIHR office in Tbilisi.