

Oslo, 10 July 2010
OSCE PA President Petros Efthymiou

Dear Colleagues,

Let me first thank my fellow candidate, Senator Di Nino, for a noble competition, as befits our Organization.

This is a very important and precious moment for me. It is a moment to be shared with all of you, because it is thanks to you that I am taking on this new, challenging role.

Over my six years of serving the P.A., I have on many occasions voiced my ideas for our Organization and the enhanced role it can play. Indeed, the key aims of my Presidency can be summarized in two key points:

-**increase effectiveness** of its work in its various fields of activity, with a balanced approach to our agenda and a policy of equality towards all participating members, from Vancouver to Vladivostok

-a **stronger role** for the P.A. itself, with the enhancement of its position, both within the OSCE and in relation to our governments and other international organizations.

The background of my aims is the strong will to promote the OSCE's principles, commitments and goals, which are what unites all of us, what brings us all here and inspires us to work towards a shared vision.

I have the privilege of succeeding a successful President, my dear friend Joao Soares, whom I wish to thank for his insight and paradigm.

I wish to continue along the path followed by Joao Soares and our former presidents Goran Len Marker and Al C. Hasting, hoping to take their work one step further.

I want to assure you of my wish to follow an inclusive policy for all participating states and all parliamentarians and wish to thank you from the depths of my heart for your trust, support and friendship.

Thank you.