

2 March, 2010

Dear colleagues,

On 7–8 March we will gather here in Stockholm to prepare for the next EU Speakers Conference on 14–15 May. As envisaged in my invitation earlier, part of our meeting will be devoted to following up the debate on interparliamentary cooperation, launched on the IPEX forum.

At the meeting a progress report will be presented as well as suggestions regarding the two themes *Subsidiarity and exchange of information* and *Coordination in the planning of interparliamentary meetings*. The presentation will be followed by a debate. I also invite you to put forward proposals on the issues to focus on before the Speakers meeting in May.

In addition to the Lisbon Treaty and consequences for national parliaments and interparliamentary cooperation, the Swedish Speaker Mr Westerberg suggests a second item for the EU Speakers Conference – *New technologies and communication - challenges for parliaments*. We would like to welcome your views and input on this at the Secretaries-General meeting.

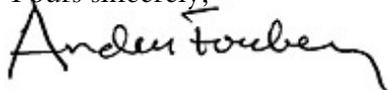
For the more informal part (1+1) of the Speakers meeting, Mr Westerberg would like to include an exchange of views before the IPU World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in July.

On Sunday 7 March between 6 p.m. and 7 p.m., a Troika meeting is scheduled for the Secretaries-General of the French, Swedish and Belgian Parliaments and the European Parliament.

Please find enclosed a programme for the meeting, the progress report, a draft programme for the EU Speakers Conference and a note on the second item. The progress report has been published on the IPEX forum and is already open for comments before the meeting if you wish.

I look forward to welcoming you all to Stockholm on Sunday.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Forsberg
Secretary-General, the Swedish Parliament