

Stockholm 28 January 2010

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Dear colleagues,

I would like to thank you all for your constructive participation at our meeting in Brussels last December. As you are all aware of, the direction of our discussion was broadly confirmed and taken further at the subsequent, equally constructive, meeting among the Speakers in Stockholm.

The aim of the meetings in December was to launch a process of debate on how to develop cooperation between our parliaments in the light of the Lisbon Treaty. The Swedish Presidency is now preparing for bringing this process forward, looking ahead at the first halt and stock taking at our ordinary meeting in Stockholm on 7 – 8 March.

I would like to take this opportunity to formally invite you to this meeting, which will begin on Sunday evening with a dinner reception. The plenary session on Monday morning will naturally be devoted to preparations for the EU Speakers Conference in May, including follow up of the process of debate on interparliamentary cooperation as well as other items on the draft agenda. After the meeting lunch will be served.

Enclosed you will find the draft program for the meeting and information on registration and other practical issues. Please note that the deadline for registration and hotel reservation is 21 February.

Concerning our process of debate on interparliamentary cooperation in the era of the Lisbon Treaty, I am happy to announce that the IPEX forum, as commissioned by the Speakers Conference in December, now is up and running.

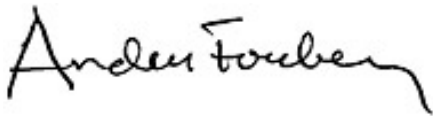
Building on the outcome of the meetings in December, the Swedish Presidency would like to initiate the forum based debate with the issue of coordination in planning of interparliamentary meetings. We think this is a matter of great importance and believe there is much to achieve by looking to the annex on planning and practical arrangements to the EU IPC Guidelines. You will find our initial working paper on this matter on the forum. I would appreciate if you submit your comments on the working paper by 18 February at the latest, on the forum or by e-mail on

address lisbonforum@riksdagen.se, so that a progress report for further discussion at our meeting in March can be produced.

Additional debates on other themes from the December meetings will be opened, either on the initiative by the Swedish EUSC Presidency or on proposal from other parliaments.

You will find necessary information about the forum and how to get started in enclosed document.

Yours sincerely,



Anders Forsberg
Secretary General, Swedish Parliament