

Stockholm 29 October 2009

Dear colleagues

I thank you for the broad support of my initiative to convene an extra EU Speakers' meeting in Stockholm 12 December. I have taken note of constructive proposals put forward and assure they are valuable contributions to the work lying ahead of us.

As previously explained I think there are strong reasons for us to engage in concrete deliberations on the handling of Lisbon Treaty provisions on national Parliaments as soon as possible. National Parliaments need to show ownership in this process and to reach a common view on which methods of cooperation to give preference to. Assessment of previous work and early discussions on how to continue will enable us to agree on clear conclusions to build practical cooperation upon at our ordinary meeting in May next year. Our strategic guidance at this stage would also help focusing ongoing efforts in different fora on the practical means of cooperation.

There is a possibility that the Lisbon Treaty will enter into force very soon and we have an obligation, from that day, to give effective voice to the opinions of our citizens and political orientation to the EU institutions as intended by the Treaty.

To ensure efficient work and allow us an open and direct exchange of views in an informal atmosphere, I suggest that delegations are limited to Speaker plus one, if possible.

Enclosed you will find the draft programme for the meeting and practical conference information which provides the necessary details about registration, interpretation and hotel reservation. Please note that the deadline for registration and hotel reservation is 9 November 2009.

For any questions, please contact: eu2009.extraeusc@riksdagen.se

I am looking forward to welcoming you to Stockholm in December and to your participation in our strategic discussions.

Yours sincerely


Per Westerberg