

Stockholm 28 December 2011

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Ms Ewa Kopacz  
Marshal of the Sejm

Mr Bogdan Borusewicz  
Marshal of the Senate

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you for your letter containing the compromise proposal concerning the composition of the interparliamentary conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP), including the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

To enable all parliaments to agree on and support the organisation of this conference, I would like to underline that it is necessary for the agreement to contain as few decisions requiring unanimity as possible.

In the light of this I would like – after some consultation with my colleagues in Finland, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania – to further develop the following Swedish points of view and additions:

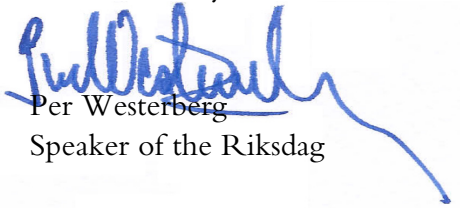
- The proposal to have a conference combining the CFSP/CSDP means a development of the existing conferences COFACC and CODAC and can therefore be said to be in line with the opinion previously put forward, i.e. that no new institutions be established.
- In accordance with this view, participation should continue to be on equal terms, i.e. the national parliaments and the European Parliament should participate with delegations of equal size. It should be stressed that it is up to each parliament to determine the composition of its delegation. Each parliament should be given ample opportunity to supplement its delegation with observers.
- It is positive that the candidate countries and NATO countries which are not EU member states are invited to participate with observers.
- The responsibility for chairing the conference, and therefore responsibility for the whole conference, should rest with the EU Presidency in close cooperation with the other countries in the EU troika including the European Parliament. The Presidency of the Conference should not be shared.
- A special, permanent secretariat should not be established. Instead responsibility should rest with the Presidency, with the support of the COSAC Secretariat and the national parliaments' representatives in Brussels, or special ad hoc expertise. If a permanent secretariat is established, the costs

should be shared by the national parliaments and the European Parliament.  
Cost efficiency should be aimed for.

The compromise proposal does not completely reflect the points of view put forward above. We are therefore awaiting a revised proposal.

I look forward to the Conference of Speakers in April and hope that the further discussions will produce good results.

Yours sincerely,



Per Westerberg  
Speaker of the Riksdag