



Marszałek Sejmu
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej

Marszałek Senatu
Rzeczypospolitej Polskiej

Warsaw, 29 March 2012

Honourable Speakers,
Colleagues and Friends,

The Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments during its meeting in Brussels on 4-5 of April 2011 has decided on establishing the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). While agreeing on a number of aspects of the new Conference, the Speakers did not reach agreement on the size of delegations. In order to find a solution which would be satisfying for all the parties, the Polish Presidency, in letters of 29 November 2011 addressed to you, submitted a compromise proposal, according to which the national Parliaments of EU Member States would have been represented by delegations consisting of four members and two alternates and the European Parliament by 16 members. The Parliaments of candidate countries and the European members of NATO would have had the right to delegate one observer and one alternate to the Inter-Parliamentary Conference.

We would like to express our deep gratitude for all the replies submitted with regard to our proposal concerning the compromise on the number of members of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). We have received replies from 32 Chambers. They show that we all agree we should no longer postpone the summoning of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference established in Brussels. It should be stressed that the number of Chambers which opted for applying the principle of equal representation of all Parliaments was similar to the number of Chambers which opted for our proposal aiming to ensure, above all, full representativeness of each delegation. A detailed summary of the consultations on this issue was certainly submitted to you by the Secretaries-General following their meeting in Warsaw on 6 February 2012.

Therefore, taking the above-mentioned as well as the course of the discussion conducted during the aforementioned meeting of Secretaries-General into account, we would like to propose applying a formula of open participation in the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for a probationary period of two years. In line with the idea, each EU Parliament will be able to delegate as many MPs to the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, as it deems necessary to present the full range of their views and competences. Nevertheless, taking organizational considerations and the efficiency of the proceedings into account, we would like to suggest that the Conference of the Speakers should recommend that the number of the members of each Parliamentary delegation should not exceed 16 MPs. The national Parliament of each EU candidate country and of each European NATO member country will be able to delegate two observers.

Taking into account the Presidency Conclusions of the meeting of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in Brussels on 4 and 5 of April 2011 and the proposal to apply the open formula, we enclose the draft consolidated text of the Conclusions of the meeting of the Conference of Speakers the European Union Parliaments – the part relating to the Inter-Parliamentary Conference. In the document, the issues agreed upon so far have been supplemented with the above-mentioned proposals. If approved, the consolidated version could form the basis for the establishment of the rules of procedure of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).

We hope to receive your support for this proposal, thus paving the way for the swift setting up of the parliamentary mechanism for the scrutiny of the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy.

Looking forward to a fruitful meeting in Warsaw,

Yours sincerely,



Ewa Kopacz



Bogdan Borusewicz