

# **Note to the COSAC chairpersons on the preparation of the 3rd biannual report of COSAC/ FEBRUARY 9<sup>th</sup> 2005**

## **Biannual report on procedures and practises relevant to national parliamentary Scrutiny**

### **Ch. 1: General scrutiny of EU affairs in National Parliaments in EU-25**

This chapter aims at providing a short presentation of the general systems for scrutiny of European Affairs in the national Parliaments covering the headings below including any recent developments:

- Legal base of scrutiny systems?
- Committees involved in scrutiny of European Affairs in national Parliaments?
- Functions and role of the European Affairs Committees in the scrutiny system
- Functions and role of the sector committees in the scrutiny system
- Information from government on EU-affairs

### **Ch. 2 Procedures for monitoring the principle of subsidiarity**

This chapter will focus on a more specific part of the scrutiny process in national Parliaments namely; the procedures for monitoring the principle of subsidiarity giving:

- a description of any existing procedures for monitoring the principle of subsidiarity in national Parliaments.
- a description of any future procedures for monitoring the principle of subsidiarity in national Parliaments within the early warning system -trying to follow the different steps from the transmission of the document until the end of the six-weeks period.

### **Ch.3 National Parliaments and the area of freedom security and Justice**

This chapter aims at describing the developments in the procedures of the Constitutional Treaty within the Area of freedom, security and justice and any specific procedures in national Parliaments for scrutinising this area. The chapter will focus on:

- a description of the changes to 3rd pillar issues in the Constitutional treaty and the involvement of national Parliaments
- the role of European affairs Committee
- the role of relevant sector committees

### **Ch. 4 The role of MEP's in national Parliaments**

The final chapter will try to provide an overview of the current involvement of MEPs in the national parliamentary activities concerning European Affairs focusing on their possibilities to participate in:

- the European Affairs Committees
- the sector Committees
- plenary debates
- Special meetings on European issues

### **Ch. 5 Conclusions**