



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

To: Members of the Standing Committee of Heads of
Delegation, Secretaries of Delegation,
Bureau Members

From: Secretary General Spencer Oliver

Date: 16 December 2004

Re: Theme for Washington Session

After extensive conversations and discussions with Members of the Assembly and Bureau, the President has decided that the Theme for the Annual OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will be:

30 Years since Helsinki: Challenges Ahead

Many suggestions were received, some narrow and some broad, including virtually every aspect of OSCE activity. The most common suggestion related to the 30th Anniversary of the assigning of the Helsinki Final Act which, as you know falls on 1 August 2005. Some suggestions would have fit very nicely with the mandates of one or two of the Committees but not all three. With this theme, the rapporteurs will have flexibility to adjust their reports and resolutions to fit the general mandate of their Committee.

Since there are likely to be many commemorative activities looking back over the last thirty years, it was felt that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly should look to the future rather than the past, thus the reason for 'Challenges Ahead'.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Spencer Oliver'.

Spencer Oliver
Secretary General



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