



**THE HIGH NORTH – ENVIRONMENT, SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY 4TH SUB-REGIONAL CONFERENCE
TROMSØ, NORWAY, 12-13 MAY 2005**

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Date and Place** The Conference will start at 09:00 on Thursday 12 May and end on 13 May 2005. It will take place at the Rica Ishavshotell in Tromsø, Norway.
- Participants** Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, OSCE Partners for Co-operation, Official Observers of the OSCE PA, OSCE Officials, Sub-regional Parliamentary Assemblies, as well as international and regional organisations.
- Programme** The detailed programme will be distributed to all registered participants before the end of March 2005. Questions concerning the programme can be directed to Mr. Allon Groth, tel. +47 23313594 or e-mail: alg@stortinget.no
- Hotels** Two hotels are offered, both must be booked through the Rica Ishavshotell, att. Ms. Renate **Jørgensen**. Bookings at the Rica Ishavshotell will be made on a first come first serve basis. When this hotel is fully booked, participants will automatically be booked at the Radisson SAS.

Deadline for reservation: 21 March

1. Rica Ishavshotell 150 available rooms The conference hall, conference lunch restaurant etc. are located inside this hotel. All excursions begin here. Address: Fr. Langesgt. 2, 9008 Tromsø, Norway. Tel: +4777666400. Fax: +4777666444

Single room: NOK 854,- (incl. breakfast)
Double room: NOK 967,- (incl. breakfast)

2. Radisson SAS

70 available rooms Located approx . 100 meters from the Rica Ishavshotell. Address: Sjøgata 7, P.O. Box 928, N - 9259 Tromsø, Norway. Tel: +4777600000, Fax: +4777685474.

Single room: NOK 795,- (incl. breakfast)

Double room: NOK 996,- (incl. breakfast)

(10 NOK = 1,2 EURO = 1,6 USD)

Transportation

Participants arriving at Tromsø airport on 11 May 2005 will be offered bus transportation to the hotels. Participants leaving for the airport after the conference on the 14 or 15 May 2005 will also be offered transportation.

Air travel to Tromsø includes transit through Oslo international airport, where passengers need to walk (indoors) from the international to the domestic terminal. Checked-in luggage will proceed automatically to Tromsø. There will be a special information desk at Oslo airport to assist the conference participants.

Transportation in Tromsø

No transportation is needed between the conference hotels. Bus transportation will be provided for the reception on 12 May, excursion 14 May and accompanying persons' programme.

Languages

Simultaneous interpretation in all OSCE official languages will be provided at all meetings.

Facilities

Within walking distance from the **The Rica Ishavshotell you will find the following facilities: Travel agency, post office and bank offices.**

Medical service; Please contact the hotel reception.

Excursion

A sightseeing tour of the Polaria wildlife center and surroundings of Tromsø including a lunch is scheduled for 14 May. The excursion will begin at 09:00 – participants will be back at the hotels at approx. 14:00. **Those wishing to participate should indicate so in the attached registration form.**

Accompanying persons

A guided tour of the surroundings of Tromsø is previewed for Thursday 12 May. Accompanying persons are also

invited to the reception on 12 May and to the excursion on 14 May. Those wishing to participate should indicate so in the attached registration form.

Visas

Norway is a Schengen country. Citizens of the following countries do NOT need a Schengen visa to enter Norway: <http://www.udi.no/templates/Page.aspx?id=5523>

A Schengen visa can be obtained from the nearest Norwegian diplomatic mission. The contact information of all Norwegian diplomatic missions can be found here: http://odin.dep.no/ud/norsk/dok/andre_dok/veiledninger/032001-990097/dok-bn.html

The visa application form can be downloaded here: <http://w03.signform.com/SFDownload/~SFC617.DOT>

Currency

Cash payments in Norway can only be made in *Norwegian krone* (NOK). Credit cards, particularly VISA and MasterCard, are accepted in all hotels and in almost all shops, and can be used to withdraw cash from ATMs.

Climate

Tromsø is located above the polar circle. The average temperature in May is around +4 degrees centigrade although the actual temperature can be up to 10 degrees above or below that. Solar radiation is strong particularly near snow. Bring a warm winter coat and shoes – but do not forget dark sunglasses.

Tourism

Tromsø is an excellent starting point for a vacation in the Tromsø region and Northern parts of Norway, for a boat cruise along the fjords to the North Cape or Bergen, or a flight to Spitzbergen. Contact your travel agent or www.visitnorway.com

Registration

Please return the attached registration forms **no later than 21 March 2005** Forms should be sent to the OSCE PA International Secretariat in Copenhagen and to the Norwegian Parliament (addresses below).

Information

For further information please contact:

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