



ASSEMBLEIA DA REPÚBLICA
PORTUGAL

Delegação à Assembleia Parlamentar da OSCE
Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Lisbon, 30 May 2006

Dear Colleague, Member of the OSCE PA

As you know, I am the Head of the Portuguese Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Since I assumed responsibilities in this Delegation, firstly as Deputy Head and then as Head of Delegation, I have endeavoured to ensure an active and committed participation in its multiple activities.

In fact, I have participated in all the Annual Sessions since 2002 and in several Election Observation Missions, namely in Kazakhstan (December 2005) and in Ukraine (March 2006), where I was Deputy Head of the OSCE PA Delegation, and in Azerbaijan (May 2006), where I had the honour to be Head of Delegation of our Parliamentary Assembly.

Today, with the encouragement and the support of all the members of the Portuguese Delegation, I present my candidature for the Vice-Presidency of the Parliamentary Assembly. I do so first and foremost because I deeply believe in the work of our organisation and because I am firmly committed to contributing, with your help, to its development, deepening and improvement.

The OSCE and the OSCE PA are making a remarkable effort in order to reduce the tensions and conflicts occurring within its area of competence, consolidate the democratic institutions in each of its member countries, promote open economies based on sustained economic and social development, and focus on environmental issues. It is an effective effort, which produces positive results on the ground and is undertaken with considerable economy of resources.

The OSCE and the OSCE PA are among the most, if not the most, effective and discreet international organisations. It is crucial that their effective work can be further improved. This is my most sincere wish as a candidate to the Vice-Presidency of the OSCE PA. I will do my best to achieve this goal, should I be elected with your support.

I sincerely believe that I can offer an important contribution to the OSCE PA with my experience, dedication, commitment and enthusiasm. I, therefore, rely on your support and I trust you with mine in our joint effort to pursue the values and objectives of the OSCE PA.

I have a wide experience of international work both as local councillor and parliamentarian. I put this experience at your service and draw on it to earn your support for my candidature for the Vice-Presidency of the OSCE PA.



João Soares



João Soares

Born on 29 August 1949 in Lisbon, Portugal
Married, four children
Degree in Law, lawyer and editor
Languages: Portuguese, English, French, Spanish, German (modest)
Website: www.joaosoares.net
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Member of Parliament from 1987 to 1990 and again since 2002, elected by the constituency of Lisbon

Member of the Parliamentary Committee on National Defence
Deputy Head of the Portuguese Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (2002/2005)
Head of the Portuguese Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly since May 2005

Municipal Councillor from 1990 to 1995 and then Mayor of Lisbon from 1995 to 2002
Chairman of UCCLA, the Union of Capital Cities of Portuguese Language

Member of the State Council from 1998 to 2002

Member of the European Parliament in 1994 and 1995, quaestor and member of the Bureau of the European Parliament
Member of the EP/ACP Parliamentary Assembly

Member of the Socialist Party

Main Publications:

A revolta da Madeira
Uma ideia para Lisboa
África, uma posição
Notas convenientes e inconvenientes
Virar de Página
Por aí

OSCE PA Activities

- Parliamentary Conference on Security in South-Eastern Europe, Bucharest, June 2002
- 11th Annual Session, Berlin, July 2002
- Meeting of the Working Group on the Mediterranean, Limassol, September 2002
- Visit to the OSCE Mission in Azerbaijan, Baku, November 2002
- 2nd Winter Session, Vienna, February 2003
- First Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum, Almaty, June 2003
- 12th Annual Session, Rotterdam, July 2003
- Mediterranean Forum and Conference on Religious Freedom, Rome, October 2003
- 13th Annual Session, Edinburgh, July 2004

- 14th Annual Session, Washington DC, July 2005
- Election Observation Mission in Azerbaijan, Baku, November 2005
- Election Observation Mission in Kazakhstan, Almaty, December 2005 (Deputy Head of the OSCE PA Delegation)
- Visit to the OSCE PA Headquarters, Copenhagen, January 2006
- 5th Winter Session, Vienna, February 2006
- Election Observation Mission in Belarus, Minsk, March 2006
- Election Observation Mission in Ukraine, Kiev, March 2006 (Deputy Head of the OSCE PA Delegation)
- Visit of the President of the OSCE PA to Portugal, Lisbon, April 2006
- Election Observation Mission in Azerbaijan, Baku, May 2006 (Head of the OSCE PA Delegation)
- Referendum Observation Mission in Montenegro, Podgorica/Cetinje, May 2006