

12. ABR. 2007 17:41

SEC. MINISTRO

Nº 584

P. 2

MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN

El Ministro

osce

Presidencia española 2007

ESPAÑA 07

Mr. Göran Lenmarker
President
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Rådhusstræde 1
1466 Copenhagen
Denmark

April 10, 2007

Dear President:


With reference to your letter dated 26 February 2007, I am pleased to inform you that I have designated Mrs. Tone Tingsgaard, Vice-President of the OSCE PA as Special Coordinator to lead the OSCE Short Term Observers in the said elections on 12 May 2007.

In order to help assuring the most effective cooperation between all participants in the OSCE observation effort, I have attached to the letter of appointment of Mrs. Tingsgaard an operational procedures framework, to be applied by both the Special Coordinator and the Representative of ODIHR while discharging their duties.

At the same time I wish to inform you that I intend to appoint a Personal Representative to the elections in Armenia and, possibly, to other elections that the OSCE will observe this year.

We must all be aware of the importance of the electoral observation in Armenia and therefore I am confident that we will all do our utmost to guarantee its success.

Yours sincerely,



Miguel Angel Moratinos

enc.: Copy of letter to Mrs. Tingsgaard and operational procedures framework.

MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN

El Ministro



ESPAÑA 07

Presidencia española 2007

Madrid, April 10 2007

Ms. Tone Tingsgaard
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Raadhusstrade, 1
1466 Copenhagen
Denmark

Dear Ms. Tingsgaard:

I am glad to learn that you are prepared to actively participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections in Armenia on 12 May 2007. Therefore, I am pleased to designate you as the Special Coordinator to lead the OSCE Short Term Observers in that mission and to deliver the preliminary post-election statement in conjunction with other appropriate officials, as provided for in the Cooperation Agreement between the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of 2 September 1997.

It is of the utmost importance that the process of electoral observation in Armenia takes place smoothly and that all agents participating in it accomplish their tasks in a genuine spirit of cooperation.

In order to help achieving this objective, I have decided that in the fulfilment of your duties and responsibilities as Special Coordinator, as well as in those performed by the representatives of ODIHR, the enclosed operational procedures framework should apply.

I would also like to take this opportunity to let you know that I intend to appoint a Personal Representative to the elections in Armenia, as it may be the case in other countries whose elections the OSCE will observe this year. This Personal Representative will not be directly involved in the election observation process.

I am convinced that a close cooperation between all participants involved and particularly between the Special Coordinator and the Head of ODIHR's Electoral Observation Mission will be a key element in the success of this important election observation, for the benefit of the Armenian people and of future processes.

Yours sincerely,


Miguel Angel Moratinos

MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN

El Ministro

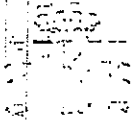
OSCE

ESPAÑA 07

Presidencia española 2007

OPERATIONAL PROCEDURES FRAMEWORK

- 1) In every election where the OSCE is sending short term observers, the CIO will designate a Special Coordinator to lead the short term OSCE Electoral Observation Mission. This designation is the entire responsibility of the CIO after consultations and, as appropriate, after a proposal from the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.
- 2) The Delegation of the PA and the OSCE/ODHIR EOM will work in partnership on the basis of their equal status.
- 3) The long term assistance, long term observation and short term observation made by ODIHR will be based on its well established methodology and will not be challenged by any political motivation.
- 4) The SC should fully respect the methodology of the ODHIR and the mandate conferred upon it by the governments of the participating States.
- 5) The SC will establish contact with the head of the OSCE/ODIHR long term Observation Mission (On-site Coordinator, in the terminology of the 1997 Coordination Agreement) at an early stage. He/she shall visit the country where the elections are going to take place at least two weeks before the elections.
- 6) The SC should arrive to the country not later than 44 hours before the opening of the polling stations and leave the country not before the full debriefing has taken place.
- 7) The role and functions of the SC can not be delegated. He/she is appointed by the CIO on a personal basis.
- 8) The SC should attend the briefings and debriefings on the day after the election.
- 9) In advance of the election day and in any case no later than one day before the elections take place, the OSCE/ODIHR EOM will present the first draft of the Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions to the SC and IEOM representatives for discussion.
- 10) In the evening of the election day or early in the morning after election day, the SC will chair a meeting organized by the OSCE/ODIHR EOM and with the participation of other representatives and delegations, to exchange information and review the statistical analysis of data in order to allow an objective assessment of the election day. Whenever the CIO has appointed a Personal Representative he/she will attend all the meetings.
- 11) The OSCE/ODIHR EOM, as the one responsible for the draft of the Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions, will take into consideration the comments and observations resulting from that meeting. Only one agreed document should come out from that meeting. In case of divergence of views among the participants, the SC shall prolong the discussions. Therefore the public release will be postponed until there is an agreed document.



MINISTERIO
DE ASUNTOS EXTERIORES
Y DE COOPERACIÓN

El Ministro

OSCE

Presidencia española 2007

ESPAÑA:07

- 12) In the morning or early afternoon after election day, under the leadership of the SC, a joint Press Release will be produced on the basis of the Statement of Preliminary Findings and Conclusions.
- 13) The SC will chair a joint press conference in the afternoon the day after the election. She/he will present the agreed post-election Preliminary Statement. Comments of the representatives of other parliamentary bodies will follow. The concluding remarks will be made by the head of the OSCE/ODIHR EOM.
- 14) Any press statement prior to the conference will be considered against the Code of Conduct for observers.
- 15) During the entire observation process the 1997 Cooperation Agreement will be fully respected.
- 16) The result of the elections shall not condition the contents of the EOM reports.
- 17) The final reports produced by the different EOMs are the proper place to introduce individual considerations by the EOMs.

Madrid, April 10, 2007

Miguel Angel Moratinos

Minister of Foreign Affairs
OSCE Chairman in Office