



# Council of Europe

## Parliamentary Assembly

*The Secretary General*

Strasbourg, 17 March 2009

Dear Member of the Assembly,

I have the pleasure to inform you that the second part of the 2009 Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe will take place in Strasbourg from **Monday 27 to Thursday 30 April 2009 at 4 p.m.**

You will find enclosed the draft agenda as drawn up by the Bureau on 12 March 2009 which indicates when the different reports are foreseen for debate as well as the interventions of personalities invited to this Part-Session. All these documents are or will be available on the Assembly's website (<http://assembly.coe.int>).

I would like to draw your attention in particular to the fact that Mrs Tarja Halonen, President of Finland, will be addressing the Assembly and replying to questions on Tuesday 28 April 2009 at 12 noon and it is foreseen that Mr José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, Prime Minister of Spain, will address the Assembly and answer questions on Thursday 30 April at 12 noon.

Also enclosed are the forms to register on the lists of speakers for the different debates, put a question to the invited personalities, submit a written question or register to ask the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers a spontaneous question.

With regard to questions to the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers, I would like to draw your attention to Resolution 1658 (2009) on Questions to the Committee of Ministers, adopted by the Standing Committee on 13 March 2009. This resolution modifies Rule 58.2 of the Rules of Procedure and states that written questions for oral answer to the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers "... must be tabled one week before the opening of the part-session." The oral or written replies from the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers will be published in the report of the sitting. The Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers has said that he is prepared to give an oral reply to spontaneous questions at the end of his address. Rule 58.2 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly states, however, that "No Representative or Substitute may put more than one oral or written question to the Chair of the Committee of Ministers at any one part-session." You may therefore register on one of the two lists by completing and returning the appropriate form (either "spontaneous question" or "written question for oral reply").

Should you require a visa for France, I would kindly ask you to take the necessary steps without delay.

Yours sincerely, *with my best regards,*

Mateo Sorinas

Letter sent to members of Parliamentary Assembly  
Copy to secretaries of national delegations.

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