



The Secretary General

To: Members of the Standing Committee of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Re.: **OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Statutory Meetings in 2022**

Copenhagen, 14 December 2021

Dear Members of the Standing Committee,

As the year is shortly coming to an end, we are all unfortunately still faced with the constraints and challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. As you are all aware, during 2020 and 2021, the OSCE PA has tried its utmost - in full compliance with preventative measures in place - to maintain a high level of activities in various formats, whether fully online, blended, or in person when possible.

In 2022 the Parliamentary Assembly's three annual statutory meetings are planned as follows: Winter Meeting (Vienna, 24–25 February), Annual Session (Birmingham, 2 to 6 July), and Autumn Meeting (Sofia, dates to be confirmed).

Based on the continuous changes in national and international preventive measures being introduced, it is difficult to provide you at this stage with definite information regarding the format of our statutory meetings for 2022. As in the previous months, the OSCE PA will adapt accordingly to the requirements in place in the host countries to ensure full compliance with the preventative measures to safeguard our delegates. We will, therefore, have to adapt as the year goes on in close co-operation and co-ordination with all host countries and parliaments.

As the Winter Meeting (24-25 February) is the first statutory meeting to be held in the new year, I can already convey that this meeting will unfortunately not be taking place in the usual format allowing all our Delegations to participate in full and entirely in person in Vienna in the premises of the *Hofburg Congress Centre*. In consultation with the Austrian authorities and the OSCE Conference Services, we will continue to follow very closely the situation in Vienna. The Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly will meet at a convenient date in January to assess the current situation and decide on the appropriate format and the programme of the Winter Meeting, which we will communicate to you as soon as possible for your planning.

Again, I thank you for all your understanding and support. The OSCE PA International Secretariat will continue its efforts within its mandate to ensure our Assembly maintains its high level of activities despite the constraints caused by the pandemic.

I take this opportunity to wish all of you all the best for the New Year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Roberto Montella'.

Roberto Montella
Secretary General