

Den danske delegation i Regionsudvalget

Amtsrådsforeningen • KL
Københavns Kommune • Frederiksberg Kommune

EUROPAUDVALGET

alm. del - bilag 823 (offentligt)

Folketingets Europaudvalg
Christiansborg
1240 København K

Att.: Claus Larsen-Jensen

03-05-2004

J.nr. 420-95017

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Dokumentnr.: 401558

Mødesalskapacitet i forbindelse med udvidelsen

Kære Claus Larsen-Jensen

Til **orientering** fremsendes kopi af brev sendt til medlemmer og
suppleanter i Europa-Parlamentet.

Med venlig hilsen


Knud Andersen


Inge Hildebrandt

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Danske medlemmer og suppleanter i Europa-Parlamentet

03-05-2004

J.nr. 420-95017

Katrine Hauchrog

Tel. 3529 8170

Mødesalskapacitet i forbindelse med udvidelsen

Kære XX.

Dokumentnr.: 399276

Den 1. maj bliver EU udvidet med 10 nye medlemslande, og i Regionsudvalget glæder vi os til at byde de nye medlemmer velkommen.

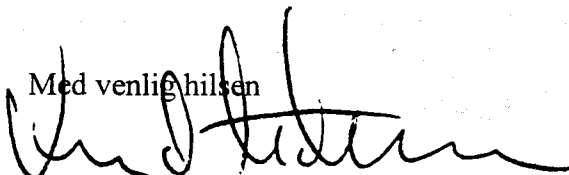
I forbindelse med udvidelsen får Regionsudvalget dog et stort problem, idet udvalget ikke råder over en mødesal med plads til alle nye medlemmer og tolkebokse.

Regionsudvalget har anmodet Europa-Parlamentet om tilladelse til at bruge Europa-Parlamentets mødesal, som alligevel ikke benyttes af Europa-Parlamentet, når Regionsudvalget har plenarsamlinger, idet Regionsudvalgets og Europa-Parlamentets mødekald er lagt forskudt.

I første omgang har Europa-Parlamentets præsidium besluttet at sige nej til Regionsudvalgets forespørgsel, hvilket jeg finder helt uforståeligt. Jeg skal derfor anmode dig om at være opmærksom på sagen.

Jeg håber det vil være muligt at nå frem til en permanent og acceptabel løsning på dette problem og håber, at du som dansk medlem af Europa-Parlamentet vil søge at arbejde for en fornuftig løsning. Til orientering vedlægges kopi af brev fra Regionsudvalgets formand, Peter Straub, til Europa-Parlamentets formand, Pat Cox, hvori der gøres rede for problemstillingen.

Med venlig hilsen



Knud Andersen
Formand for den danske delegation i Regionsudvalget

cc til Formanden for Folketingets Europaudvalg, Claus Larsen-Jensen

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**Committee
of the
Regions****The President**

Knud Andersen
Head of the Danish delegation of the CoR
Amtsborgmester
Danish Regions
Box 2593
DK - 2100 Kobenhavn

Brussels 06-04-2004
F-Cab/D/511/04

Dear Mr Andersen, Dear Colleague,

0467

At the Bureau meeting in Dublin on 19 March 2004, I informed you of my meeting with the President of the European Parliament, **Mr Pat Cox**, on 9 March 2004 in Strasbourg, during which I raised the issue of the EP's hemicycle in Brussels being made available for CoR plenary sessions.

Like you, I am concerned about this matter. I would hope that we can reach a permanent solution as soon as possible so that the Committee is able to carry out its institutional tasks in fitting conditions. For the moment we need to continue our dialogue with the EP so that we can succeed in reversing the decision taken by its bureau in January 2004.

You will find attached a letter that I have sent to **Mr Pat Cox** in an attempt to find a solution to the most urgent problems which will arise during the June plenary session with the post-enlargement arrival of new members and the November plenary session when we wish to celebrate the Committee's 10th anniversary.

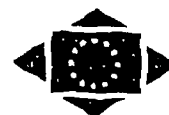
I draw your attention to this situation and would ask you, as chairman of your national delegation, to raise this issue within your delegation so as to alert our colleagues in the national delegations of the European Parliament.

I count on your support to reach an acceptable permanent solution in a reasonable timeframe and thank you for informing me of any actions you take.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Straub

Attached: letter to the President of the EP, **Mr Pat Cox**



Committee of the Regions

The President

Mr Pat COX MEP
President of the European Parliament
PHS11B011
Rue Wiertz 60,
B - 1047 BRUSSELS

Brussels 30 -03- 2004

P Cab/D/488/04 0431

Dear President,

Thank you for the opportunity of our meeting on 9 March in Strasbourg. As you will recall from our discussions, I am most keen to ensure a close working cooperation with the European Parliament and was delighted to have your positive commitment towards the continuation of Joint Conferences of Presidents between our institutions. The most appropriate moment for a future Joint Conference would appear, at this stage, to be October 2004.

I also took note of the difficulties you foresee with regard to the security issues involved around the organisation of a parallel session in September for which we both recognise the importance. In light of this, I would suggest that the services of the Parliament and the Committee of the Regions look for suitable means of organising the plenary session of the Committee of the Regions immediately after the session of the Parliament in order to ensure that both sessions can remain scheduled for the same week and that consequently there is the maximum opportunity for exchange between colleagues.

With regard to our exchange of views on the possibility of allowing the Committee of the Regions to use the Parliament Hemicycle for its plenary sessions, I am pleased to inform you that I also had the opportunity of talking to Vice President David MARTIN about this issue. As you know, we are faced with many practical obstacles in the organisation of our plenary sessions in room PHS 3C50 of the European Parliament and I raised these with him. On his suggestion my Head of Cabinet Mr BERG subsequently met with Vice President Gerard ONESTA to discuss the situation further. Their conversation emphasised the particular development of obstacles in this regard after enlargement on 1 May 2004 when 95 new representatives of the new member-states will join the 222 members of the Committee of the Regions. This will have the effect of increasing the number of coordinators of the national delegations, the number of representatives of the permanent representations of the Member

States, the associations representing European local and regional authorities, the number of representatives of the European institutions and the number of invited personalities and visitors groups wanting to attend this first plenary session after enlargement.

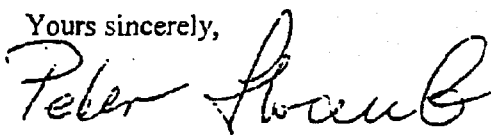
I am confident that you will understand the difficulties we will face in organising the first plenary session of the Committee of the Regions after enlargement in PHS 3C50 on 16 and 17 June 2004. I also expect that the same problems will recur during our plenary session on the 17 and 18 of November 2004 when the Committee of the Regions has planned to celebrate its 10th anniversary. A larger capacity room would obviously facilitate the organisation of these meetings and Vice President ONESTA was most sensitive to our concerns in this regard.

Given these specific concerns, I would kindly ask you to reconsider our request for the use of the Hemicycle, for these two particular meeting dates in June and November 2004. Offering the Hemicycle to the Committee of the Regions would be of great help for the organisation of these two important sessions and warmly appreciated by all concerned. Notwithstanding this incidental request for the exceptional use of the Hemicycle on these dates, I would underline my wish, and that of the ensemble of CoR members, to find a permanent solution to this problem as soon as possible in order for the CoR to best fulfil its institutional obligations.

As I explained in our meeting, in order to develop the spirit of cooperation between our institutions, it is my intention to send a letter to all members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions asking them to encourage their citizens to turnout for the European elections. This is an important participative moment for us all in the democratic life of Europe and I am eager to fully associate CoR members with their European Parliamentary colleagues during this crucial electoral period. A copy of my letter to members is annexed for your information in this regard.

I have already informed the Heads of national delegations and Presidents of the political groups within the Committee of the Regions of our discussion on 9 March. I will keep them fully informed of your response to the particular requests set out in this letter. I look forward to your positive consideration of our situation. I very much hope that together we will be able to use the coming months to encourage the fullest participation of all our citizens in Europe and the forthcoming elections.

Yours sincerely,


Peter STRAUB

Annex: letter to the members and alternate members of the Committee of the Regions

