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Dear Chairperson, dear Colleague,

The Committee on Foreign Affairs in the European Parliament has a long established practice of holding twice-yearly meetings with its counterparts in national Parliaments.

As we believe that the establishment of the "European External Action Service (EEAS)" is of utmost importance and as we have finally received the proposal by the Vice-President / High Representative Mrs Ashton (attached to this letter), we have decided that it would be timely and beneficial to devote one of our regular interparliamentary meetings to the matter before we adopt our position in Committee. This meeting will take place on 2 June 2010, in the morning followed by a lunch.

I am therefore writing to you to invite up to four Members (split between each chamber in the case of bicameral parliaments) and two officials (one official per two Members) from your committee to participate in this meeting.

I look forward to welcoming you to the European Parliament.

Yours sincerely,

Gabriele Albertini

Annex: Proposal for a Council decision establishing the organisation and functioning of the European External Action Service