

1 December 2015

Conclusions of the LIV COSAC

Luxembourg, 30 November - 1 December 2015

1. 24th Bi-annual Report of COSAC

COSAC welcomes the 24th Bi-annual Report of COSAC prepared by the COSAC Secretariat and warmly thanks the Secretariat for its excellent work.

2. "Yellow card"

- 2.1. COSAC notes that the working group on Strengthening the political dialogue by introducing a "green card" and improving the reasoned opinion procedure ("yellow card") suggests that a reasoned opinion should mention the legislative proposal it refers to, indicate clearly that the text is a reasoned opinion, include a translation or a summary of the text in English and French, as well as a summary of the argumentation, the legal basis and the motivation.
- 2.2. While respecting their established internal practices, COSAC encourages national Parliaments to consider these elements while drafting a reasoned opinion.

3. COSAC Secretariat

- 3.1. COSAC notes that the term in office of the Permanent Member of COSAC Secretariat will end on 31 December 2015.

COSAC welcomes the decision taken by the Chairpersons of COSAC held in Luxembourg on 1 December 2015 to renew Ms Christiana FRYDA's appointment as Permanent Member of the COSAC Secretariat for 2016 - 2017.

COSAC expresses its gratitude to the House of Representatives of Cyprus for having seconded Ms Christiana FRYDA as Permanent Member for 2014 - 2015 and for continuing to second her for 2016 - 2017. COSAC is convinced that Ms FRYDA will smoothly continue to coordinate the work of the COSAC Secretariat.

- 3.2. COSAC recalls that the co-financing of the current Permanent Member and the office of the COSAC Secretariat and website maintenance costs ends on 31 December 2015. The Luxembourg Presidency invited Parliaments to renew their commitment to the co-financing agreement for the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2017.

COSAC notes that so far 25 Chambers of 28 national Parliaments have signed and sent their letters of intent indicating that they are willing to participate in the co-financing for the above stated period.

COSAC welcomes the fact that this number is above the minimum threshold, therefore the co-financing of the Permanent Member and the office of the COSAC Secretariat and the costs of website maintenance will continue.

COSAC invites the remaining few Parliaments / Chambers to submit letters of intent as soon as possible.

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- 3.3. COSAC thanks the European Parliament for hosting the COSAC Secretariat on its premises in Brussels and for providing it with appropriate office facilities.