Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

The Secretary General

To: All Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Secretaries of Delegation

Copenhagen, 21 December 2005

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please find attached for your attention a Draft Program of the Fifth Winter Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, which has been approved by the Bureau. In accordance with wishes expressed by some Assembly Members, President Alcee L. Hastings will propose a thematic debate on "Integration of New and Old Minorities in Society" to take place in the morning of 24 February immediately following the meeting of the Third Committee.

After discussions with the members of the Expanded Bureau in Slovenia, and bearing in mind the proposals which he has received from Assembly members, President Alcee L. Hastings has decided that, as in previous Annual Sessions, an overall theme was needed to focus debate and guide the Rapporteurs of the three General Committees in the preparation of their reports and draft resolutions. Therefore, he concluded that the theme "Strengthening Human Security in the OSCE Region" would serve all three Committees and would allow the Assembly to discuss OSCE activities and challenges related to security both from a political/military, economic and human dimension.

I hope this information will help Assembly members prepare for the Winter Meeting and I look forward to seeing all of you in Vienna in February.

Yours faithfully,

R. Spencer Oliver



DRAFT PROGRAMME OF THE FIFTH WINTER MEETING OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Vienna, 23-24 February 2006

All meetings of the Standing Committee and the three General Committees will take place in the Congress Center Hofburg in Vienna.

Thursday, 23 February

08.30-11.30	Standing Committee
11.45-13.30	Joint Session of the three General Committees: - Call to order; - Opening remarks by the President of the OSCE PA; - Address by the President of Austria; - Address of the OSCE Chair-in-Office followed by a question/answer session;
13.30-15.00	Lunch break
15.00-18.00	General Committee on Political Affairs and Security
15.00-18.00	General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment
18.30	Reception offered by the Austrian Parliament
Friday, 24 February	<u>Y</u>
09.00-11.30	General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions
11.30-13.00	Debate on Integration of New and Old Minorities in the Society*
13.00-14.30	Lunch break
14.30-17.00	Closing Joint Session of the three General Committees
	 Call to order; Report by the OSCE PA Special Representative on the gender issue followed by a debate; Address by the OSCE Secretary General followed by a question/answer session; Reports by the Chairs of the three General Committees; Report by the OSCE PA Treasurer Report by the OSCE PA Secretary General Concluding statement by the OSCE PA President

With approval by the Standing Committee