



BELGIAN FEDERAL PARLIAMENT

Brussels, 1 December 2010.

Dear Secretary-General,
Dear Colleague,

In order to prepare for the next EU Speakers Conference (3 to 5 April 2011), we are pleased to invite you to a meeting of the Secretaries-General of the Parliaments of the European Union on Sunday 16 and Monday 17 January 2011.

As is customary, the meeting will begin with a welcome dinner on Sunday evening. The working session on Monday morning and the concluding lunch will be held in the Belgian Senate. We are also planning a short Troika meeting before the dinner on Sunday.

Enclosed you will find the programme, registration form and further practical information. Hotel bookings have to be made online via the website <http://www.secure-squastra.be>. Please note that the deadline for hotel reservation is 17 December 2010.

The meeting will be devoted to a discussion of the agenda, draft programme and arrangements for the EU Speakers Conference in April.

There will also be a report from the Belgian presidency on the follow-up of the conclusions of the Stockholm Speakers Conference, especially on the process of debate through which the Belgian presidency hopes to come to an agreement on the future mechanism for parliamentary scrutiny of the common foreign and security policy, including the common security and defence policy, of the European Union. As you know, this will be the main task and agenda item of the Brussels Speakers Conference. The Belgian Presidency will shortly present a note on this issue.

Further items on the agenda will be the IPEX annual report and appointment of the IPEX Board as well as a proposal from our Greek colleague for a comparative study on the impact of the economic crisis on the organisation and budget of parliaments in the European Union.

We take this opportunity to inform you that, by the time of the meeting of Secretaries-General in Brussels, one of us will have retired. As of 1 January 2011, the Secretary-General of the Belgian Senate will be Mr Hugo Hondequin.

Yours faithfully,

Luc Blondeel, Secretary-General
Senate

Emma De Prins, Secretary-General
House of Representatives