



PROPOSAL BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS ON A FACT-FINDING MISSION REGARDING THE SOUTHERN AND EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN NEIGHBOURHOOD

Paragraphs 7, 8 and 9 of the Conclusions of the inaugural Meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference on the CFSP and CSDP held in Paphos, on 9-10 September 2012, stipulate that:

"7. [The Inter-Parliamentary Conference] is convinced that Parliaments have a crucial role in promoting democratic values and accountable systems of good governance and emphasizes, therefore, the need for an enhanced role of parliaments, particularly in supporting the democratic transitions in its Southern and Eastern Neighbourhood;

8. Takes the view that this requires, inter alia, enhanced monitoring of the democratic processes in the Union's Southern and Eastern Neighbourhood and coordination, through joint initiatives and improved exchange of information, as well as parliamentary activities in support to these countries;

9. Requests the Presidency to develop proposals to this effect before the next Inter-Parliamentary Conference Meeting;"

In accordance with paragraph 9, the Cyprus House of Representatives suggests that a fact-finding mission be set up by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference to monitor the democratic processes in the Southern and Eastern Mediterranean Neighbourhood. For this purpose, the mission will pay visits to Arab Spring countries and report its findings to the Conference.

The mission can be composed of up to eight members to be decided upon by the Conference, through an open call. A coordinator can be decided from within the group. The composition can be renewed for each mission.

The duration of the mission's mandate can extend until the next Conference and can be renewed.

The Secretariat can be ensured by the Parliament of which the Coordinator is a Member, acting in cooperation with the Presidency Troika and the European Parliament.

The cost of missions can be covered by participating Parliaments.