

**COURTESY TRANSLATION**

Nicosia, 20 July 2012

Dear Colleague,

It is with great pleasure that I communicate with you on the occasion of the first Meeting of the Interparliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy and the Common Security and Defence Policy, to be hosted by the House of Representatives, in the context of the parliamentary dimension of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in the second semester of 2012.

It is a particular honour for the House of Representatives and myself to extend an invitation to you to participate in this inaugural Meeting, which will be held at the Coral Beach & Resort Hotel, in Paphos, on 9 and 10 September 2012. On the basis of the decisions of the Conference of Presidents of the EU Parliaments, the Parliaments of the EU member-states will be represented at the Inter-Parliamentary Conference by a delegation of six Members of Parliament and the European Parliament by a delegation of sixteen of its Members. The Parliaments of candidate countries and of NATO European Member Countries are invited to participate with four observers each.

Discussions will focus on the priorities of the Cyprus Presidency in the fields of foreign policy and defence, current issues of foreign policy, as well as the Arab Spring. The first Session of the Meeting will be dedicated to the discussion and adoption of the Draft Rules of Procedure of the Conference, which are attached hereto.

Please also find attached hereto the draft programme of the Conference, some practical information, as well as the Registration and Hotel Reservations Forms.

Looking forward to welcoming a delegation of your Parliament to Cyprus and aspiring to our best possible cooperation for the successful outcome of this first Meeting, I avail myself of this opportunity to express to you, dear Colleague, the assurances of my highest consideration.

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Yiannakis L. OMIROU,  
President of the House of Representatives  
of the Republic of Cyprus.