



To: The Members of the COSAC Troika

Cc: The Participants in the COSAC Chairpersons' Meeting, 11 September 2006

Future funding of COSAC Secretariat, etc.

Dear Colleagues,

Please find enclosed a Presidency Note on the future funding of the permanent member of the COSAC Secretariat and on reviewing the Rules of Procedure. The Note is in response to the Conclusions of the XXXIV COSAC, according to which *"the question of the financing of the post needs to be further examined. Modification of COSAC's Rules of Procedure regarding the secretariat should also be discussed within the period of two years from 15 January 2006"*.

I wish to underline that the content of the note is tentative and has not yet been discussed with the Troika. I feel, however, that all delegations should be consulted in advance of the Troika meeting.

The post of permanent member of the COSAC Secretariat will need to be filled from 16 January 2008. In the interest of avoiding interruption in the Secretariat, it is hoped that a decision could be reached on the funding issue at the Helsinki COSAC in November. Concerning the Rules of Procedure, the Finnish Presidency is not making any proposals at this stage, but welcomes any input from the Troika and delegations.

In the interests of efficient time use at the Troika and Chairpersons' meetings, I should be grateful to receive comments and suggestions concerning the Note by e-mail (cosac2006@parliament.fi) in advance of 11 September.

Yours sincerely,

Jari Vilén

Chairman of the Grand Committee

