## JOINT STATEMENT

## of the Council of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly and the Bureau of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

The Council of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly and the Bureau of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (hereafter referred to as "the parties") held a joint meeting on 16 June 1998 in Saint-Petersburg. During the meeting, which was conducted in an atmosphere of cooperation and mutual understanding, the parties exchanged their opinions on issues of common interest, such as European security and topical questions regarding international and regional policy.

Summing up the results of the meeting, its participants,

- firmly convinced that the cooperation between the IPA of the CIS and the OSCE PA, based on the principles of respect for human rights and freedoms, rule of law, market economy and social justice, can positively influence the creation and maintenance of common security space in the European region and the development of a multipolar world where the interests of all states and peoples are taken into account;
- reaffirming their commitment to the principles embodied in the UN Charter and the basic documents of the OSCE;
- recognizing the important role played by the parliamentarians of the two parties in the implementation of peace initiatives in the area of European security, including the elaboration of the European Security Charter;
  - striving for further deepening of relations between both organizations,
    stated as follows:
- 1. The parties express their willingness to cooperate and to develop contacts with the aim of improving parliamentary democratic institutions, to carry out effective measures in the human dimension, such as the protection of human rights and the rights of national minorities, as well as in such areas as the resolution of ethnic and other conflicts, preventive diplomacy, and peacekeeping.

2. The parties express their readiness to constructively promote the elaboration of programmes on regional security issues, arms control and confidence-building measures, and environmental protection.

3. The parties emphasize the importance of a regular exchange of information, and of coordination of efforts towards the prevention and resolution of conflicts in

different regions of Europe.

4. The parties concur in their desire to continue mutual participation in each others' meetings, to exchange the agenda of plenary meetings, to invite each others' representatives to observe these meetings, and to exchange documentation, analytical

and information materials on a regular basis.

5. The parties agreed that in future, where necessary and convenient, joint meetings of the delegations of the Council of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly and

the Bureau of the OSCE PA may be held.

President of the CIS

Interparliamentary Assembly

**E.STROEV** 

President of the OSCE

Parliamentary Assembly

JAVIER RUPÉREZ

Secretary General of the Council of the

CIS Interparliamentary Assembly

Secretary General of the OSCE

Parliamentary Assembly

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## PROTOCOL OF INTENT

The Chairman of the Council of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS Member Nations Parliamentary Assembly, on the one side, and the President of the OSCE, on the other, agreed to:

- 1. Establish a joint Working Group of the IPA CIS and the OSCE PA on developing a Document on election observation in OSCE participating states, composed of parliamentarians and experts up to 8 from each side.
- 2. Entrust the Secretariats of the IPA CIS and the OSCE PA to nominate relevant specialists for the Working Group and to organize the work of the Group.
- 3. Determine the date and venue for the first meeting of the Working Group.

Chairman of the Council of the CIS Interparliamentary Assembly

President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Sergey MIRONOV

Göran LENNMARKER