



STORTINGETS PRESIDENT

Oslo, 31 May, 2010

Prior announcement

SECOND NORTHERN DIMENSION PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

Tromsø, Norway from 22 to 23 February 2011

Stortinget (Norwegian parliament) will be hosting the Second Northern Dimension Parliamentary Forum in Tromsø, Norway from 22 to 23 February 2011.

The Forum will include members from the European Parliament, the national parliaments of Russia, Iceland and Norway as well as representatives of regional parliamentary bodies representing all national parliaments in the Northern Dimension Region, including Canada and the United States of America.

In November 2006, Norway, Iceland, Russia and EU adopted a new Northern Dimension Policy which states in its paragraph 8: "Welcome the intention of various bodies and institutions to participate in the cooperation within the Northern Dimension framework, considering inter alia the proposed Northern Dimension parliamentary Forum". The first Northern Dimension Parliamentary Forum was organized by the European Parliament in February 2009. The Forum decided that the next forum should be held in Norway in 2011. It was emphasized that the Forum shall not take the shape of a new institution, but rather a recurrent place for representatives of the different parliamentary bodies in the North.

The main theme of the Forum should be reports by the governments on the implementation of the partnerships (environment, social, infrastructure and culture) within the Northern Dimension. The Forum aims at coordinating the policies of the parliamentary bodies within the Northern Dimension region.

Time will be set aside for meetings in the various parliamentary bodies on Tuesday, February 22, 9-12 h.

A Statement will be adopted and sent to the partners of the Northern Dimension as well as to intergovernmental and interparliamentary organisations.

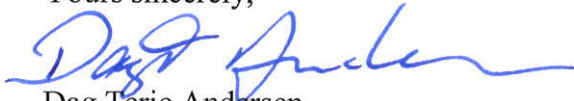
Participation at the Forum is by invitation only. Formal invitations will be sent out during autumn 2010.

A block reservation at hotels in Tromsø has been made.

A list of bodies being invited to Second Forum in Tromsø is enclosed as well as the Statement of the First Forum in 2009.

For further inquiries, please contact the Storting's Nordic Council's secretariat at nordpost@stortinget.no or Mr Kjell Myhre-Jensen, Head of secretariat at +47 92 82 46 24.

Yours sincerely,



Dag Terje Andersen
President of Stortinget