

## PA Economic Conference in Andorra

At the invitation of the Consell General (Parliament of Andorra) the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will hold its Economic Conference in Andorra la Vella, Andorra, from 24 to 26 May 2007.

Parliamentarians from 33 OSCE countries will participate in the Conference. The Conference will be inaugurated on 24 May by the President of the Andorran Parliament, Joan Gabriel I Estany and OSCE PA President Göran Lennmarker. The Prime Minister of Andorra, Albert Pintat, will also address the participants.

The Conference will examine topics related to the central theme of Strengthening Stability and Co-operation through International Trade. The Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Bernard Snoy, will lead discussions in one of the sessions. The two-day conference will enable participants to address various topics related to trade and its implications for international co-operation. The Conference's five sessions will deal with issues on International Trade and Security; International Trade in a Globalized World; Borders and International Trade; Labour and Social Aspects of International Trade; and International Trade and the Environment.



## President Lennmarker Visits Moldova

OSCE PA President Göran Lennmarker completed his first visit to Moldova last week, following an invitation from the Speaker of the Moldovan parliament, Marian Lupu.

The aim of the visit was to support democratic reforms in the country, and to explore possible parliamentary support to the status negotiations process on Transdniestria. In Chisinau, President Lennmarker met the Chairman of the Moldovan Parliament, the Moldovan delegation to the OSCE PA, leaders of parliamentary factions and President Vladimir Voronin. During his visit to Tiraspol, Lennmarker met the Chairman of the Transdniestrian Supreme Soviet, Evgeny Shevchuk, and members of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet, as well as with the Transdniestrian leader, Igor Smirnov. President Lennmarker met with Transdniestrian status negotiators in Chisinau and Tiraspol, as well as with other relevant officials.

President Lennmarker stressed that it was important that the conduct of local elections next month be held in accordance with Moldova's commitments to the OSCE.

In meetings with interlocutors in Chisinau and Tiraspol, President Lennmarker was briefed on the preparations for the local elections, including the campaign process. The border situation with Transdniestria, including the EU Border Assistance Mission, was also discussed. In discussions with the Moldovan Parliament and the Supreme Soviet of

Transdniestria, President Lennmarker received feedback on possible parliamentary involvement in the status negotiations process for Transdniestria.

The OSCE PA has a Parliamentary team on Moldova, tasked with promoting security and co-operation in Moldova, with a special focus on the parliamentary dimension of the status negotiations on Transdniestria.

The OSCE PA visit to Moldova was organized with the assistance of the Moldovan Parliament and the OSCE Mission to Moldova.

Lennmarker's visit to Moldova follows recent trips to almost all OSCE field missions. On behalf of the Assembly, the President has visited the OSCE field presences in Serbia, including Kosovo, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Albania, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan. In each country, the President was thoroughly briefed on the work of the OSCE in the field. President Lennmarker has stressed that the work being done by the OSCE in the field is of critical importance to the Organization, and has reiterated the strong support of the Assembly for their work.

In Moldova, President Lennmarker was accompanied by Programme Officer Anna Chernova on behalf of the International Secretariat, and by Asa Ekwall, Adviser, from the Swedish Parliament.