

25 September 2006

Open Skies Consultative Commission

Swedish Chairmanship

**OPENING STATEMENT BY THE SWEDISH
CHAIRMANSHIP**

IN THE OPEN SKIES CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION

25 September 2006

Dear Colleagues,

Allow me to make a short opening statement as Chair of the Open Skies Consultative Commission. It's an honour for Sweden to chair the OSCC during this fall session, and let me express my thanks and appreciation to Slovenia and Slovakia as previous Chair's during 2006 for a job very well done. We will do our best to follow your example.

We will continue the work towards a full implementation of the Treaty and we are counting on continuing constructive work and support from State Parties.

We encourage and welcome new members from the OSCE region to join the Treaty.

The application of Cyprus will remain on the agenda of the Open Skies Consultative Commission also during the Swedish Chairmanship.

One of this Chair's responsibilities is to prepare and present the OSCC report to the OSCE CiO and the OSCC contribution to the Ministerial Council in Brussels. The Chair intends to present draft report and contribution at the next OSCC in October, and we welcome interested delegations to approach the chair.

The Chair appreciates the work done in the Informal Working Groups and thanks the Chairpersons of the IWGRP and IWGP on Sensors for their efforts. The Chair is looking forward to a completion of the work with the remaining decisions in the IWGP on Sensors, so that these decisions can be adopted at the last OSCC in December.

We look forward to the expert meeting on active quota distribution for 2007 on the 5th and 6th of October. The aim of that meeting

should be to agree on the quota distribution for 2007. Furthermore, in the framework of and outside the agenda, the meeting should enable possibilities for bilateral consultations on practical arrangements concerning the quota flights, as well as to exchange views on other issues connected to the Treaty. The chairmanship hopes for a positive outcome and evaluation of the meeting and that it can serve as a model for future negotiations.

I thank you for your attention!