

Open Skies Consultative Commission

Swedish Chairmanship

**CLOSING REMARKS BY THE SWEDISH
CHAIRMANSHIP**

IN THE OPEN SKIES CONSULTATIVE COMMISSION

11 December 2006

Dear Colleagues,

Allow me to make some closing remarks as Chair of the Open Skies Consultative Commission.

On the 5th and 6th of October we conducted the expert meeting on active quota distribution for 2007. The outcome of that meeting was very positive and I have the feeling that there is a general agreement to continue along the same line also next year. I hand over to the incoming chairs to consider and propose how to conduct and when to prepare for the meeting, my only recommendation for the time being is to start the preparations early next year.

Thanks to constructive comments, support and flexibility shown from delegations we managed to reach consensus on the OSCC contribution to the Ministerial Declaration in Brussels. Unfortunately it was not possible to reach final consensus on a political declaration in Brussels.

In my opening statement I expressed the hope that the OSCC should be able to adopt the decisions on Certification and Infra-red at the meeting today. I regret that this was not possible and I therefore call on State Parties to strengthen their efforts in this matter, in order to reach final agreement early next year. This is of great importance for the continuing implementation of the Treaty.

Dear Colleagues,

It has been a great pleasure to chair the OSCC during this fall session, and let me express my thanks and appreciation to all State Parties, the previous chairs Slovakia and Slovenia, the Chairman of the IWGRP, Mr Alexander Kozlov, the chairman of the IWGS, Mr Scott

Simmons and our Chef de file for Quota distribution, Col Ratzlaff, the secretariat and our interpreters for a job well done and for a excellent support.

Finally I would like to welcome the Czech Republic as the incoming Chair of the OSCC. We wish you all the best and you can count on our support during your Chairmanship next year.

I thank you for your attention.