



THE DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL

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Req / Refused

27 October 2008

Dear Mr. Sorinas,

I write to thank you for your letter of 10 October 2008, expressing the interest of the parliamentarians of the Council of Europe to meet with me on 4 or 5 November in New York on the margins of the annual meeting of the Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Political Affairs Committee of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly.

While I am honoured by this request and would have very much liked to receive the parliamentarians, it is with deep regret that I must decline as I will not be in New York on the proposed dates.

I appreciate your understanding and send my best wishes for a successful meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Asha-Rose Migiro

Mr. Mateo Sorinas
Secretary-General
Council of Europe
Strasbourg

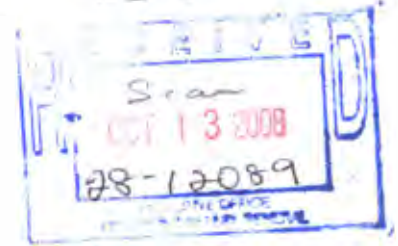
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Isabel decline please



Council of Europe

Parliamentary Assembly



The Secretary General

Strasbourg, 10 October 2008

RE : **Request for a meeting in New York on 4-5 November 2008** ✓

Dear Deputy Secretary General,

As in previous years, the Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Political Affairs Committee of the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly will meet in New York. This year's meeting will take place on 3-5 November 2008 and the Sub-Committee will also attend the debate on co-operation between the United Nations and regional and other organisations (agenda item 114 (g) of the 63rd UN General Assembly). Several parliamentarians will address the General Assembly as part of their national delegation. A list of the members of the Sub-Committee is enclosed.

The parliamentarians would very much appreciate it if, on this occasion, it would be possible to arrange a meeting with you for an exchange of views on UN co-operation with the Council of Europe in areas of common interest. It would be appreciated if this meeting could take place on 4 or 5 November 2008.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe has recently dealt with a number of issues which are prominent on the UN agenda. The Sub-Committee would thus be particularly interested in discussing UN perspectives and possible future synergies with regard to the following subjects:

- reform of the UN,
- multilateral mechanisms of conflict prevention, crisis settlement and peacebuilding,
- multilateral action against terrorism in full respect of human rights standards,
- multilateral action and mechanisms for the protection of national minorities,
- intercultural and inter-religious dialogue,
- South Caucasus,
- Middle East,
- Kosovo,
- "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" -Greece,
- Cyprus

J..

Dr Asha-Rose MIGIRO,
Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations
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United States of America

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During the visit, the Sub-Committee also intends to have meetings with the Presidents of the General Assembly and the Security Council, the Chairs of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and of the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as with a number of UN officials.

Mr Pavel Chevtchenko, Co-Secretary of the Political Affairs Committee, who is in charge of preparing this visit, will shortly contact your Secretariat about the meeting. He remains at your disposal for any additional information (tel. +33 3 88 41 38 35, fax: +33 3 88 41 29 44, e-mail: pavel.chevtchenko@coe.int).

On behalf of the Sub-Committee, I thank you in advance for your consideration of this request.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mateo Sorinas', with a horizontal line extending to the left.

Mateo Sorinas