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**Report of the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation
to the Bureau Meeting and to the 15th Ministerial Council of
the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

**Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Security and Co-
operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA)**

**Madrid, Spain
November 28-30, 2007**

Report

Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein participated in the Bureau Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly on November 28, 2007, and the OSCE Ministerial Council from November 29 to 30, 2007, both of which were held in Madrid, Spain.

Bureau Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Bureau Meetings of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly are always held in camera. Participants discuss recommendations to the Permanent Council and prepare for upcoming activities of the Assembly.

The Bureau is composed of the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the nine Vice-Presidents, the Treasurer, and the Chairs, Vice-Chairs and Rapporteurs of each of the three General Committees. The Assembly's President Emeritus is also a member of the Bureau, but has no vote. The Bureau usually meets during the Annual Session, and in April and December. In 2007, the December meeting was moved ahead to the end of November.

Senator Grafstein participated in the meeting in his capacity as Vice-President, a position he was elected to in the summer of 2007, after serving as Treasurer of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly from 2001 to 2007.

Bureau Members heard from several speakers, including Göran Lenmarker, President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; Isabel Pozuelo, Head of the Spanish delegation to the OSCE PA; and Miguel Angel Moratinos, Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE and Spain's Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Secretary General Spencer Oliver and Treasurer Hans Raidel presented their respective reports.

Members were briefed on the previous and upcoming activities of the OSCE AP, including electoral observation missions and Assembly meetings, and discussions ensued.

Lastly, Members discussed at length the status of the OSCE AP under the proposed Convention on the international legal personality, legal capacity and privileges and immunities of the OSCE.

15th Ministerial Council, Madrid, Spain

The OSCE has a new Chairman-in-Office each year, selected from among the foreign affairs ministers of participating states. As the Organization's senior diplomat, the Chairman-in-Office is supported by the Secretariat and its Secretary General. The Foreign Affairs Minister for Spain is the Chairman-in-Office for 2007. At the 15th OSCE Ministerial Council, held in Madrid in November 2007, it was agreed that the chairmanship would pass to the following countries: Greece (2009), Kazakhstan (2010) and Lithuania (2011).

The Ministerial Council, whose members are foreign affairs ministers of OSCE participating states, meet once a year at the end of each chairmanship (usually in years

when a summit is not held) to discuss issues of interest to the OSCE and take any appropriate decisions. States participating in the OSCE have equal status within the Organization, and decisions are based on consensus.

The Ministerial Council is open to the media and accredited non-governmental organizations. The OSCE AP always sends a delegation of Bureau Members to the Council, and the President usually delivers an address.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Maurice Vellacott, M.P.
Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Security and Co-operation
in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA)

TRAVEL COSTS

ASSOCIATION	Canadian Delegation to the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly (OSCE PA)
ACTIVITY	Bureau Meeting and to the 15 th Ministerial Council to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
DESTINATION	Madrid, Spain
DATES	November 28-30, 2007
DELEGATION	
SENATE	Senator Jerahmiel Grafstein
HOUSE OF COMMONS	
STAFF	
TRANSPORTATION	\$4,669.77
ACCOMMODATION	\$762.09
HOSPITALITY	\$0.00
PER DIEMS	\$294.44
OFFICIAL GIFTS	\$0.00
MISCELLANEOUS / REGISTRATION FEES	\$0.00
TOTAL	\$5,726.30