

To: Heads of OSCE PA Delegations

CC: Secretaries of OSCE PA Delegations

4 March 2019

Dear Heads of Delegations,

A presidential election will be held in the Republic of North Macedonia on 21 April 2019 and following an invitation from the Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic of North Macedonia, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will deploy an election observation mission to these elections. Please note that if no candidate wins more than 50 per cent of the valid votes cast, a second round is expected to take place on 5 May 2019.

Please find attached a registration form for Members wishing to observe these elections. We kindly ask you to return completed observer nomination forms together with a copy of the photograph page from Members' passports, a digital photo, as well as the signed Statement of Nominated OSCE PA Observers as well as Code of Conduct to the International Secretariat at (<u>com@oscepa.dk</u>) as soon as possible, but no later than **29 March 2019**. Please note that due to registration procedures, we may not be able to accommodate those who register after the deadline.

We remind National Delegations that the OSCE PA attempts to ensure a geographically balanced delegation. Once we have reviewed the nominations, we will inform you about a possible ceiling to be applied to the number of observers from individual national delegations. Members are encouraged to consider observing with colleagues from other parliaments, to make a multi-national team. We also encourage members of Parliament to consider deployment outside of the capital.

Further information, including a detailed programme, will be distributed to participants in due course. Briefings for the mission are expected to be held in Skopje during the two days before election day, and Members are reminded that in accordance with the OSCE PA's Astana Declaration of 2008, participants are expected to attend the full briefing programme as well as the debriefing on the day following the election.

I wish to remind you that national parliaments are responsible for their Members' expenses and that only English interpretation will be provided in meetings and briefings.

Yours sincerely, -

Iryna Sabashuk Head of Administration for Election Observation