



Dear Member of the Standing Committee,

As you will recall, we have on several occasions in the past two years discussed ways to make our adopted Declarations and resolutions more effective and concise. With the intention of fulfilling this stated desire, I would like to bring to your attention an issue related to submitting supplementary items for consideration at OSCE PA Annual Sessions.

Many of us will have already received requests from colleagues to support supplementary items related to different issues. However, as you know, according to Rule 21.1 *“the agenda of the Annual Session may be supplemented by an item or a motion on any matter within the competence of the OSCE, which does not relate directly to subjects proposed by the General Rapporteurs to the three General Committees”*. Having recently heard from the General Rapporteurs, it is clear that the topics in some of the proposed supplementary items being circulated will already be covered in the draft reports and draft resolutions of the Rapporteurs of the Committees. While Rapporteurs gave an overview of their intentions during the Winter Meeting, it is not yet possible for sponsors of supplementary items to identify the precise subjects of draft reports and draft resolution before reading the documents, therefore Rule 21.1 is quite clear that *“a supplementary item must be received by the Secretariat after the General Rapporteurs have submitted their reports”*.

Considering the current situation of submitting supplementary items ahead of the General Rapporteurs reports it would be appropriate if Members of the Assembly strictly adhere to the Rule 21.1 of the Rules of Procedure regarding subjects and time of submitting supplementary items. I hope that all Members will carefully read the proposed resolutions of our General Rapporteurs and work with them on the topics they raise through our amendment process to develop effective resolutions. Supplementary items that address issues already covered by the Rapporteurs will lead to unnecessary duplication and redundancy that is not in the best interests of the Assembly.

I would appreciate this information being forwarded to the Members of your Delegation.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bowness', is written over a horizontal line.

Lord Peter Bowness

OSCE PA Vice-President  
Chair of the Sub-Committee  
on the Rules of Procedure and Working Practices

---

Tordenskjoldsgade 1, 1055 Copenhagen K., Denmark

Phone: +45 33 37 80 40 - Fax: +45 33 37 80 30 - [osce@oscepa.dk](mailto:osce@oscepa.dk) - [www.oscepa.org](http://www.oscepa.org)