



The President

H.E. Mr. Richard Ferrand
President
Assemblée Nationale
Paris

13 January 2022

Dear Mr. President,

Thank you for your letter of 14 December 2021 concerning the budget of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. I certainly appreciate your interest in our work, and I take good note of your concerns over the budget increase voted by our Standing Committee in July 2021.

I can assure you that the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly places great importance on the use of public of funds for its activities. These past years, the OSCE PA has ensured in a consensual and transparent manner among its fifty-seven delegations that our budget complies with and reflects the efforts of our national legislatures to minimize expenses and remain within our objectives of austerity and accountability in the use of our tax-payers money. Please note that, in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic, which postponed or cancelled a large majority of our events, the OSCE PA decided in June 2020 to freeze the Assembly's budget and to accrue saved amounts, thus automatically reducing the amounts contributed by all national delegations for the period 2020-2021.

At our upcoming Winter Meeting, next month, I will inform our leadership about the points you raise in your letter in view of the budgetary process for the next financial year. This approval process, conducted by the elected Treasurer of the Assembly, and which starts in April at the Meeting of the Bureau and concludes by the budget consideration and approval at the time of the Standing Committee every July at the time of the Annual Session, is fully transparent allowing all national delegations to provide the necessary input.

Once again, Mr. President, I reiterate my appreciation for your interest and support of the work of the Assembly. I assure you that we will respond to the many challenges affecting the OSCE area by continuing to work with our limited resources towards the great objectives of comprehensive security, dialogue, and co-operation in the OSCE area.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'M Cederfelt', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Margareta Cederfelt

CC: Mr. Peter Juel Jensen, Treasurer of the OSCE PA
Ms. Sereine Mauborgne, Head of the Delegation of France to the OSCE PA