## Ress Release

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## Council of Europe Secretary General welcomes reports on the agreement on early elections in Ukraine

Strasbourg, 04.05.2007 - I am very pleased about the reports that President Yuschenko and Prime Minister have reached an agreement on holding early elections in Ukraine. This is an important step towards the end of a dispute which has for too long blocked the normal functioning of the democratic institutions in the country. Now the priority should be to maintain a constructive dialogue and ensure that the elections will be free and fair and properly prepared. The Council of Europe is ready to provide any assistance the Ukrainian authorities may require.