

Press Release

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Congress President: Clashes in Turkey gravely affect local and regional democracy

Strasbourg, 07.10.2008 – "The recent military clashes in south-east Turkey is a cause for serious concern. Beyond the human toll, they gravely affect the situation of local and regional democracy and hinder regional development. I condemn the terrorist attacks which triggered the clashes, much as any terrorist act," Yavuz Mildon, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, stated today.

On behalf of the Congress, he conveyed his condolences to the families of the Turkish soldiers who lost their lives.

Président du Congrès: Les affrontements en Turquie affectent gravement la démocratie locale et régionale

Strasbourg, 07.10.2008 - "Les affrontements récents impliquant les militaires dans le sud-est de la Turquie sont une cause de sérieuses préoccupations. Au-delà du coût humain, ils affectent gravement la situation de la démocratie locale et régionale et empêche le développement régional. Je condamne les attaques terroristes qui ont déclenché ces affrontements, comme tout attentat terroriste" a déclaré aujourd'hui Yavuz Mildon, Président du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux du Conseil de l'Europe.

Au nom du Congrès, il a transmis ses condoléances aux familles des soldats turcs qui ont perdu la vie.

The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions.

It brings together 318 full and 318 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.

President of the Congress : Yavuz Mildon (Turkey, EPP/CD), President of the Chamber of Regions: Ludmila Sfirloaga (Romania, SOC),

President of the Chamber of Local Authorities : Ian Micallef (Malta, EPP/CD).

Political Groups : Socialist Group (**SOC**), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (**EPP/CD**),

Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (**ILDG**).