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Meeting of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Strasbourg, 19 February 2014 – The members of the Monitoring Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will be meeting in Nicosia (Cyprus) on 19 February 2014. Among other matters they will be examining the state of local and regional democracy in Sweden, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Armenia and recent developments in Portugal, the Republic of Moldova and Finland.

The committee will hold specific discussions on the post-monitoring process in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the current situation in Ukraine. The trend in the state of local democracy in Georgia will be addressed in the presence of Tengiz Shergelashvili, Georgia's First Deputy Minister for Regional Development and Infrastructure.

In the context of the committee meeting, a delegation from the Congress, led by the Monitoring Committee's Chair, Lars O. Molin (Sweden, EPP/CCE) and composed in particular of Jean-Claude Frécon, President of the Congress Chamber of Local Authorities (France, SOC) and Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress, will also have a meeting with the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Nicos Anastasiades, and Interior Minister, Socratis Hasikos.

Other items on the agenda include good practice in the implementation of human rights at local level and the electoral rights of voters who are de facto living abroad.

Contact on the spot :

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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: Herwig Van Staa (Austria, EPP/DC), President of the Chamber of Regions: Nataliya Romanova (Ukraine, IDLG), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC)
Political Groups: Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD), Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG), European Conservatives & Reformists Group (ECR)