



**MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
PARLIAMENTS**

13 March 2015, Rome

CONCLUSIONS ON IPEX

1. The Secretaries General take note of the annual report on the current status of IPEX and thank the IPEX Board for its work in 2014.
2. The Secretaries General confirm the following composition of the IPEX Board during the Luxembourg Presidency of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in 2015/2016:
 - **Italy (Chamber of Deputies and Senate)**, Chair of the IPEX Board (*ex officio*);
 - **Luxembourg (Chamber of Deputies)** (*ex officio*);
 - **Slovakia (National Council)** (*ex officio*);
 - **Latvia (Saeima)** (*ex officio*);
 - Austria (National Council and Federal Council);
 - Belgium (Chamber of Deputies and Senate);
 - Denmark (Folketing);
 - France (National Assembly and Senate);
 - Germany (German Bundestag);
 - Greece (Hellenic Parliament);
 - Lithuania (Seimas);
 - The Netherlands (Senate)
 - Poland (Sejm and Senate);
 - Portugal (Assembly of the Republic);
 - Romania (Chamber of Deputies and Senate);
 - United Kingdom (House of Commons);
 - **The European Parliament** (*ex officio*);
 - Any other national Parliament wishing to participate in the work of IPEX Board.According to the IPEX Guidelines, COSAC, the ECPRD, the European Commission and the Council participate in and contribute to the IPEX Board meetings.
3. The Secretaries General congratulate the IPEX Board on preparing the new IPEX Guidelines (attached). The new organisational structure of IPEX with a rotating Chair of the IPEX Board,

the streamlined functions of IPEX bodies and the IPEX Information Officer should increase the efficiency and broad-based ownership of IPEX by EU Parliaments.

4. The Secretaries General express gratitude to the Belgian Senate for its willingness to hire the IPEX Information Officer under Belgian Labour Law. The Secretaries General also appreciate the support of 28 national Parliaments of the EU for the proposed hiring arrangements for the IPEX Information Officer and their letters of intent on the co-financing of the post for the period of 2015-2016.
5. The Secretaries General thank the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania, Chair of the IPEX Board, for hosting the Annual IPEX Correspondents Meeting on 9-10 October 2014 in Vilnius. The Secretaries General acknowledge that the Annual IPEX Correspondents meetings provide an excellent opportunity for networking and organising in-depth trainings on IPEX for parliamentary staff of the host Parliaments.
6. The Secretaries General thank the Danish Parliament for organising the first IPEX Users Conference on 26 January 2015 in Copenhagen and take into consideration the Report of the Conference. The Secretaries General recommend continuing the practice of organising such conferences as a tool of further promotion of IPEX *inter alia* among its users.
7. The Secretaries General welcome the initiative to open debate on the role of IPEX, as started at the Annual IPEX Correspondents Meeting on 9-10 October 2014 in Vilnius, the IPEX Board meeting on 14 November 2014 in Brussels and the IPEX Users Conference on 26 January 2015 in Copenhagen. The wide variety of opinions on the role of IPEX will guide further development of IPEX as an indispensable tool of interparliamentary cooperation in the EU.
8. The Secretaries General recognise the constant efforts of the IPEX Board and the IPEX Central Support to widen the use and to improve the reliability and user-friendliness of the IPEX website. The Secretaries General thank the European Parliament for its support and efforts in further development of IPEX.