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D 322005 21.12.2015

Senator Paddy Burke Cathaoirleach Seanad Éireann Leinster House DUBLIN 2

Dear Cathaoirleach,

The States-General of The Netherlands and the European Parliament are pleased to invite you to the Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union (the Conference following Article 13 of the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the EMU (TSCG)). The European Parliament also invites you to the Interparliamentary meeting on the European Semester Cycles 2015/2016. Both events are part of the 2016 edition of the European Parliamentary Week (EPW).

The Interparliamentary meeting on the European Semester Cycles 2015/2016 on 16 February, organised by the European Parliament, will provide an opportunity to debate the recently proposed changes to the European semester process and exchange of information on best practices in implementing the Semester cycles, and to strengthen cooperation in order to scrutinise the actions of the executive at national and European levels within the framework of the European Semester cycle.

The Interparliamentary Conference on Stability, Economic Coordination and Governance in the European Union on 17 February, co-hosted and co-presided over by the Netherlands Parliament and the European Parliament, will provide a framework for debate and exchange of information and best practices in implementing the provisions of the Treaty in order to strengthen cooperation between national Parliaments and the European Parliament and contribute to ensuring democratic accountability in the area of economic governance and budgetary policy in the EU, particularly in the EMU, taking into account the social dimension and without prejudice to the competences of EU Parliaments.

Both conferences will take place at the premises of the European Parliament in Brussels and will bring together Parliamentarians from across the EU.

We very much hope that your Parliament/Chamber will be represented at both events of the 2016 EPW and we are convinced that your participation will contribute to fruitful discussions.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Schulz President of the European Parliament

Ankie Broekers-Knol President of the Senate of the Netherlands

Khadija Arib Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Netherlands