



CONFERENCE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE ARCTIC REGION

THE STANDING COMMITTEE OF PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE ARCTIC REGION

Stortinget, 15 October 2014

Mr. John F. Kerry,
Secretary of State of the United States

11th Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region in Whitehorse 9-11 September 2014

The 11th Conference of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region took place in Whitehorse 9-11 September 2014 and was hosted by the Canadian parliament. We had two days of very interesting interventions and discussions on matters crucial to the Arctic peoples and the Arctic cooperation.

The Conference unanimously adopted a Conference Statement directed to the Arctic Council. The statement is built around the four main items of the conference:

- Sustainable Infrastructure Development
- Governance Models and Decision-making Processes
- Enhancing Northern Economies – Responsible Resource Development and Capacity Building
- Environmental Challenges

In the enclosed Conference Statement I will especially like to highlight the articles related to the importance of involving the people living in the Arctic in the decisions regarding the development of the region.

We have the privilege to have Senator Lisa Murkowski as a dedicated member of the Standing Committee.

I hope the Conference Statement will be of inspiration in the preparations for the up-coming US Chairmanship of the Arctic Council, and look forward to a fruitful cooperation during the Chairmanship.

Yours Sincerely,

Eirik Sivertsen

Chair of the Standing Committee of Parliamentarians of the Arctic Region