



## **Preparation for the election of Chair and Vice-Chairs in 2014 – Appointment of Election Committee members**

Dear CERP members,

By May 2014 I will have completed my second three-year term as CERP chairman. While Article 8.5 of the CERP Rules of Procedure does state that “in special circumstances, the Chairperson and Vice-Chairpersons can be designated for a third mandate, if so decided by a majority of CERP members”, I do not intend to present my candidature for another term:

- On the one hand the possibility of being elected for a third term should be the exception (in special circumstances) and this exception has already been the case with the third term of Jean-Luc Dutordoit in the years 2005-2008.
- On the other hand I am convinced that after 6 years of leadership by the same person it will be beneficial for an organisation like CERP to elect another chairperson with a new spirit, a different working mode and other ideas.

I have talked to some CERP members already about whether they would consider presenting their candidature in 2014. However, so far nobody has given any confirmation of this. I would therefore like to ask everybody to evaluate the possibility of becoming CERP chair from 2014 onwards.

As to the procedure specifically, I refer to Articles 8.1 to 8.7 and Articles 12 and 13 of the CERP Rules of Procedure.

It is evident that all CERP member countries are allowed to send in their application, either for the function of Chair or for one of the functions of Vice-Chair. It is important for the candidates to be aware of their possible tasks and to be able to take them on (management of plenaries, meetings, coordination of Working Groups, etc.). My experience has proved that it is essential to have support, logistical and otherwise from one's own country as well as to be able to rely on the help of collaborators (Secretariat). Please do take this aspect into account before committing yourself.

May I also draw your attention to the election of the chairpersons for the CERP Working Groups UPU and Policy? Egil Thorstensen, who has chaired the Working Group UPU since 2011, intends to run for a second term in 2014. That does not, of course, prevent any one else from submitting their candidature for this post too. Anna Karolak, who chairs the Working Group Policy, has indicated however that she will not go for a second term and candidates for this post are therefore very welcome.

To enable you to apply for any of the functions or to support the application of a candidate the Secretariat will distribute the relevant forms six months prior to the CERP Plenary scheduled for spring 2014.

In that context, it is also necessary to find three volunteers to be part of the Election Committee. Might I therefore ask CERP members to consider doing so and helping to guarantee the transparency and impartiality of the election procedure? If you wish to volunteer, please let me know during the CERP Plenary in Kristiansand on 23-24 May 2013.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you should need any further information.

Bonn, 15 April 2013

Ulrich Dammann  
CERP Chairman