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Parliamentary questions

3 March 2009

E-6603/2008

Answer given by Mrs Ferrero-Waldner on behalf of the Commission

The Commission fully shares the Parliament's abhorrence over the November 2008 terrorist attacks in Mumbai which took many lives and which directly affected some Members of Parliament who were visiting the city at the time.

Concerning the security measures that were adopted for the visit, the Commission draws the attention of the Honorable Member that it is not within its remit to ensure the security of Members of the Parliament.

However, in the context of the assistance the Commission provides to the Parliament and in conformity with the spirit of the framework Agreement on relations between the Parliament and the Commission, the latter would wish to make clear that during these dreadful events the Commission was fully mobilised in order to assist the Parliament's Delegation visiting India. The Member of the Commission responsible for External Relations and European neighbourhood policy personally followed the situation closely and telephoned Ignasi Guardans MEP on the morning following the attack. The Commission services liaised closely with the Parliament Security Office, the Cabinet of the President of the Parliament, the crisis rooms of the French and Spanish Ministries of Foreign Affairs, as well as with Swedish authorities and with the Head of the Commission's Delegation in New Delhi.

The fact that the visiting Members of the Parliament were unscathed by the events is also the result of this close and well-timed liaison, and not 'pure chance' as is suggested.

OJ C 316, 23/12/2009

Poslední aktualizace: 10. března 2009

Právní upozornění