



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

www.renateweber.eu

Renate Weber – 3rd time Chief Observer of an EU International Mission **PRESS RELEASE**

Bruxelles, 17 mai 2010 – Following an invitation of the European Commission, Romanian MEP Renate Weber (ALDE) will lead the EU Mission to observe the May-September electoral cycle in Burundi, Africa.

"I am grateful that Mrs Renate Weber, who has experience with other international observation missions, has accepted my invitation to lead this mission," declared¹ Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the EU for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, and Vice-president of the European Commission.

The mission EU has decided to deploy, on the invitation of the government of the Republic of Burundi, will be made up of 82 observers and will be in Burundi for the local elections (May 21), the presidential elections (June 28), the legislative elections (July 23), the senatorial elections (July 28) and the administrative elections (elections for the heads of the country's smallest administrative units, known as collines, on September 7).

"The upcoming election cycle will be of particular importance for Burundi since it represents an opportunity to confirm institutional stability and democratic progress in the country", said EC Vice-President Catherine Ashton.

The Chief Observer Renate Weber will be in Burundi, as Head of the Mission, during May 23 – 30, June 20 – 30 and July 17 – 28, 2010.

The EU EOM will follow the election campaign and the preparations of the elections for all 17 provinces of the country, as well as the various polls and post-election periods. This Observation Mission will complete other European Union actions aiming at support for democracy and human rights in Burundi.

For more information on the EU EOM in Burundi: <http://www.moeue-burundi.eu/>

For more information on Mrs. Renate Weber's MEP activities, please contact Mirela Rus, Press Officer, +40-723/532.030, presa@renateweber.eu, www.renateweber.eu

¹ <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/10/569&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>