NOTES ON THE SENATE

SENATE
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF POLAND

The Senat Marshal, Deputy Senate Marshals, the Presidium of the Senate, and the Council of Seniors

CHANCELLERY OF THE SENATE
6, WIEJSKA STR. | 00-902 WARSAW
TEL. 48 22 694 90 34 | FAX 48 22 694 93 06
senat@senat.gov.pl
www.senat.gov.pl
www.facebook.com/SenatRP

The Marshal represents the Senate and guards its rights and dignity. The Marshal plans the work of the House and prepares a draft agenda, in consultation with the Council of Seniors. He or she convenes and presides over the sittings of the Senate and monitors their progression. The Marshal supervises the work of the Senate committees and instructs them to examine particular issues. The Marshal assists senators in exercising their mandates. In addition, the Marshal convenes and presides over the meetings of the Presidium of the Senate and of the Council of Seniors.

After consulting the Presidium of the Senate and the Rules, Ethics and Senatorial Affairs Committee, the Marshal also appoints and dismisses the Head of the Chancellery of the Senate, provides the Chancellery with its statute and drafts its budget.

As envisaged in the Constitution, the Marshal of the Senate takes on the duties of the President when the Marshal of the Sejm is unable to do so. The Marshal of the Senate may preside over the sessions of the National Assembly instead of the Marshal of the Sejm.

The Presidium of the Ninth Term Senate. From the left: Adam Bielan, Deputy Marshal, Bogdan Borusewicz, Deputy Marshal, Stanisław Karczewski, Marshal, Maria Koc, Deputy Marshal, Grzegorz Czelej, Deputy Marshal (photo by K. Czerwińska)

The Senat Marshal, Deputy Senate Marshals, the Presidium of the Senate, and the Council of Seniors

Deputy Marshals act as deputies for the Senate Marshal in presiding over the Senate's sessions. In the Marshal's absence, they may also perform the tasks entrusted to the Marshal.

The Presidium of the Senate is composed of the Marshal and the Deputy Marshals. The powers of the Presidium of the Senate include: interpretation of the Rules and Regulations of the Senate, instructing the Senate committees to look into specific matters, dealing with matters submitted by the Marshal, and overseeing the performance of the senators' duties and responsibilities. In addition, the Presidium establishes the rules for the provision of scientific advice to the Senate.

The Head of the Chancellery of the Senate and persons invited by the Marshal may take part in the meetings of the Presidium of the Senate in an advisory capacity.

The Council of Seniors is composed of the marshal, the deputy marshals and senators – representatives of the senate clubs. The Senate clubs and groups may jointly appoint one representative to the Council of Seniors. In addition, the Council of Seniors comprises representatives of parliamentary clubs which include at least seven senators.

The Council of Seniors is convened to agree on issues such as Senate agendas, work schedules and dates of sittings. Moreover, the Council of Seniors examines and presents proposals on how the debate and the session of the House should be conducted.

Senators choose **Secretaries of the Senate** from among their number. The Secretaries of the Senate are tasked with: drawing up the list of speakers during the sittings of the Senate, taking minutes of the sittings, counting votes etc.

Office for Citizen Relations, 2016