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Protect your interests!

Dear fellow citizens

As Swiss Abroad, you are an important political force. Your active participation in national decision-making is essential. By voting in Switzerland you protect your own interests. In fact, many issues put to the vote concern you directly. This includes social security and our country's position in Europe and in the world.

The Council for the Swiss Abroad has decided to launch a campaign aimed at achieving a substantial increase in the present 82,700 Swiss Abroad who are registered to vote. This figure represents about 18.2% of the entitled Swiss citizens, but you can do better! And together we can strengthen the political influence of the Fifth Switzerland.

You are not second-class citizens. I myself am a former Swiss resident abroad and, as a member of your National Council, I had a strong personal commitment to your right to vote from abroad. A motion filed by me on 1 July 1992 led to the Fifth Switzerland being granted the right to a postal vote at federal level from abroad. Every vote counts and you must give our country the benefit of the experience you have gained outside our borders. So please take this opportunity to exercise your political rights from now on! It's unlikely to take more than five minutes and the price of a stamp.

Georg Stucky President, Organisation for the Swiss Abroad

SWISS REVIEW NO. 1 - MARCH 2003

Registration form for Swiss Abroad entitled to vote

(Please write clearly in block letters and send to your embassy or consulate)

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