



Swedish Government  
Offices Yearbook 2001



REGERINGSKANSLIET

# Swedish Government Offices Yearbook 2001

The chapter vignettes are pictures from the Swedish EU presidency in the first half of 2001. Photographs by Anette Andersson and Per Westergård.

The Government Offices comprise the Prime Minister's Office, ten ministries and the Office for Administrative Affairs. The Government Offices are mainly situated in the Södra Klara district of central Stockholm around the southern section of Drottninggatan, from Tegelbacken in the west to Gustav Adolfs Torg in the east.

The Government Offices' yearbook for 2001 has been produced by the Office for Administrative Affairs at the direction of the Prime Minister.

The various ministries have contributed facts and figures and have also been responsible for the choice of material in each case.

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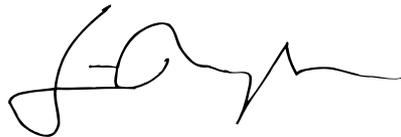
# Preface

The aim of this yearbook is to provide information about the work of the Swedish Government Offices. It describes the main events of the past year and presents the people who work here.

The past year was a special one. It was marked by the extensive preparations that were required for Sweden's EU Presidency in 2001, a task that staff at the Government Offices had to perform while at the same time attending to their regular duties. It was a busy and exciting period.

A number of issues of major importance were dealt with during the year. Some of these are presented in greater detail in the yearbook while others are discussed more summarily. Work at the Government Offices always involves a wide range of day-to-day duties that seldom receive the attention they deserve.

But a yearbook cannot take in everything. If you have any questions that are not answered in these pages, or issues that you would like to find out more about, please feel free to contact the Government Offices. You are also welcome to visit our website: [www.regeringen.se/inenglish](http://www.regeringen.se/inenglish)

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Göran Persson', with a stylized, flowing script.

*Göran Persson*  
*Prime Minister*

# Table of Contents

Preface	4
Chapter 1 Presentation of the Swedish Government Offices	7
Chapter 2 Specific issues	10
Programme for better health in working life	11
New policy for nationwide growth and vitality	11
Working against climate change	11
New European agency for safe food	12
Chapter 3 Ministry activities	13
The Prime Minister's Office	14
Ministry of Justice	16
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	19
Ministry of Defence	22
Ministry of Health and Social Affairs	24
Ministry of Finance	27
Ministry of Education and Science	29
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries	31
Ministry of Culture	33
Ministry of the Environment	35
Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications	37
Office for Administrative Affairs	40

Chapter 4 The Swedish presidency	42
Appendix	48
The Government in 2001	49
The Government Offices Organisation in 2001	52
Summary of the Central Government Budget 2000–2001	53
Table of Items 2000–2001	55
Number of Employees at the Government Offices 2000–2001	57
Staff Categories at the Government Offices 2000–2001	57
Staff Structure at the Government Offices 2000–2001	58
Recruitment at the Government Offices 2000–2001	58
Government Offices Expenditure 2000–2001	59

## Chapter 1 • Presentation of the Swedish Government Offices

*All public power in Sweden proceeds from the people. The people elect the Riksdag (Swedish parliament), and governments are formed on the basis of how party seats are distributed.*

*Under the Constitution, the Government governs the realm and is accountable to the Riksdag. This distribution of power and duties means that the Government is responsible for day-to-day public administration and also implements parliamentary decisions and lays proposals before the Riksdag, while the Riksdag enacts laws, determines central government expenditure and scrutinises the work of the Government and its ministers.*

*To assist it in its work, the Swedish Government has a staff of 4,500 civil servants and political appointees employed at the Government Offices (Regeringskansliet), a single, integral government authority.*

The Swedish administrative model is unique. In other countries, administrative duties are often integrated into the ministry concerned. Only in Sweden are all ministries gathered together in a single public authority or agency.

Central government agencies in Sweden are accountable to the Government but are relatively independent. The Government, or a particular minister, may not seek to influence the way in which an agency implements a decision, for instance. Nor are agencies accountable to “their” respective ministers or ministries but answer to the Government as a whole. Another unique aspect of the Swedish model is that the Government makes decisions on a collective basis and in consensus. The opposite of this is ministerial rule, which is the general practice in other countries. The principle of collective government decision-making informs all the work performed at the Government Offices. An internal consultative system has been developed there that guarantees collective decision-making and ensures that all ministers are given a reasonable chance to influence Government decisions.

Over the past ten years, the Government Offices have undergone a number of major changes, both operative and organisational. Perhaps the most important change in the 1990s was Sweden’s accession to the European Union (EU). Prior to EU membership, the task of determining what positions Sweden would take at meetings of international organisations lay primarily with the Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Today, all ministries represent Sweden in the EU and implement agreements on Sweden’s behalf. A growing

number of legislative and administrative matters now have an EU dimension. This has affected the workload of the ministries as well as their organisation and working methods.

The budget process and the mechanisms applied by the Government to regulate and direct the operations of central agencies have undergone substantial development over the last ten years. The Riksdag’s requirements in connection with the budget process, including the drafting of the annual budget bill, have been embodied in new budget legislation. Management by objectives and results has been developed and has become established practice in a growing number of cases.

Both the role of politics in society and political conditions have changed in a number of ways. Traditional policy instruments for governing the realm and achieving political objectives are being brought up to date or replaced by new approaches. Pursuing operative tasks quickly, less formally and in close contact with the political executive has become increasingly important. Committees have been empowered to exercise official authority and a number of projects are serving as discussion platforms to which resources can be allocated for the purpose of educating public opinion. Two such examples are the *Living History* project and the *Adult Education Initiative* (AEI). Interministerial policy areas are also growing in importance, among them gender equality, diversity, the environment and youth affairs.

The advent of the information society has furthered the need for fast and easily accessible information and altered the nature of the Government Offices’ contact

and communication with the world at large. The Government Offices' website, for instance, normally receives around 200,000 visits a week, and virtually all press conferences are broadcast live on the Internet or can be downloaded afterwards by means of webcasting.

The events of last year, including the terrorist attack on the World Trade Center in New York, also focused attention on the way the Government Offices function in crisis situations. Crisis management skills will be increasingly in demand in the future.

There are also a number of activities that have diminished in scope. Government business, for instance, declined in volume in the 1990s. This was due in part to a longstanding endeavour to relieve the Government of more routine matters and delegate administrative responsibilities to the agencies and other bodies.

Despite all these changes, however, the preparation and presentation of bills for parliamentary consideration remains one of the most important tasks of the Government Offices.

## Chapter 2 • Specific issues

*Warnings that long-term absence from work due to illness was rapidly increasing prompted the Government to act in 2001. A wide-ranging 11-point programme was introduced with the aim of improving health in working life.*

*In some parts of the country, the employment situation appears particularly troublesome. And how widely available are good public services? The Government presented a new policy area – regional development – with the aim of promoting growth and vitality throughout the country.*

*Two other issues of special concern during the year were the international work in progress to combat climate change and the efforts to create a European agency for safe food.*

## PROGRAMME FOR BETTER HEALTH IN WORKING LIFE

The number of people on sick leave or disability pensions has increased drastically in recent years. Today, some 120,000 people have been on the sick list for more than a year. This problem has substantially increased the pressure on public finances and threatens to hamper growth.

In its 2001 Budget Bill, the Government presented a wide-ranging 11-point programme of measures for improving health in working life. The goals included a better working environment, greater employer accountability and a rapid return to work following a period of illness.

No single factor can explain the increase in sick leave. The causal links are complicated. But there is a strong and distinct connection between the workplace and the sickness level there. Both employers and union organisations, therefore, have a considerable responsibility to bear. The 11-point programme is being implemented in close collaboration with the social partners.

## NEW POLICY FOR NATIONWIDE GROWTH AND VITALITY

Growth in Sweden is the sum of all local and regional growth. Consequently, it is important to strengthen and make full use of local employment regions throughout the country. In a September bill, the Government presented a new, cohesive policy area – regional development. The overall objective of this policy is “properly functioning and sustainable local

employment regions with good standards of service in all parts of the country”.

Regional development policy chiefly involves coordinating different sectors and taking regional needs into account in various policy spheres. A number of policy areas have an important bearing on regional development, among them industrial policy, employment policy, educational policy and transport policy. In order to achieve the objectives of regional development policy, it may be necessary to introduce measures in these and other policy areas.

## WORKING AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

The climate issue quickly arrived on the agenda when Sweden took over the EU presidency. The US administration announced at the beginning of 2001 that it intended pulling out of the 1997 Kyoto agreement on international cooperation against climate change. The EU launched a diplomatic offensive with trips to the US, Russia, Iran, China, Japan and Australia.

The disappointment caused by the failure of the sixth meeting of the parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, held in the Hague in 2000, gave way to relief in Bonn in July 2001. Following nightlong negotiations, the countries of the world agreed at that meeting on how the climate treaty from Kyoto was to be interpreted. All except the United States. But as all the other countries were in agreement, the US refusal to join could no longer block the treaty.

At the end of October, the seventh climate meeting

was held in Marrakech. It proved a success and the parties were able to agree on the details of the Kyoto Protocol.

In a November bill outlining a Swedish climate strategy, the Government proposed reducing emissions of greenhouse gases in Sweden by 4 per cent by 2010 compared to 1990 levels. This commitment is considerably more ambitious than prescribed by the Kyoto Protocol.

Sweden is also on its way to severing the link between economic growth and air pollution. Over the past ten years, the Swedish GNP has increased by 15 per cent while emissions of carbon dioxide have remained more or less unchanged.

## NEW EUROPEAN AGENCY FOR SAFE FOOD

In November 2000, the European Commission proposed setting up a special European agency for

food issues. The Commission also proposed introducing a general law on food in the EU. Subsequently, the work of bringing these proposals to the decision stage was largely pursued under the Swedish presidency. The Council of Ministers and the European Parliament reached agreement in December 2001. The EU countries, however, were unable to agree on the location of the new agency. For the time being, it is based in Brussels.

The new general food law extends throughout the food chain. Previously, no common framework was available for this type of legislation although the EU countries share many rules in this area. The new food law provides such a framework. It introduces a definition of foodstuffs, for example, and also makes clear that it is the actors in the food chain who are responsible for ensuring that food is safe.

## Chapter 3 • Ministry activities

- *The Prime Minister's Office*
- *Ministry of Justice*
- *Ministry for Foreign Affairs*
- *Ministry for Defence*
- *Ministry of Health and Social Affairs*
- *Ministry of Finance*
- *Ministry of Education and Science*
- *Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries*
- *Ministry of Culture*
- *Ministry of the Environment*
- *Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications*
- *Office for Administrative Affairs*

## THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE

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During the first half of 2001, work at the Government Offices was dominated by Sweden's presidency of the EU. The Prime Minister's Office had two central tasks in this respect: keeping the presidency together and planning EU summit meetings.

In the autumn, a very different and more rapid form of coordination was required. The dreadful terrorist attacks on the US caused Sweden to review its own security situation. The Prime Minister's Office coordinated work with the government agencies in this area.

### The EU presidency, spring 2001

The Prime Minister played a central role as president of the European Council (the EU 'summit meetings') during Sweden's presidency of the EU Council of Ministers. Thus the Prime Minister's Office assisted in the coordination of the EU presidency and in the planning of the two summit meetings in Stockholm and Göteborg. The Prime Minister's Office also drew up the work programme for the Swedish presidential term.

Although the presidency had a decentralised structure, with each ministry addressing its own issues, there was a strong need for central leadership. Sweden's Permanent Representation in Brussels also played an important part and was required to maintain close, organised contact with Stockholm.

A special unit was set up at the Prime Minister's Office to manage the EU presidency. Several times a week, early morning meetings were held – with the Brussels Representation linked up by video – at which an extensive agenda was discussed: sudden problems, new issues that cropped up, press matters, etc.

### Forum against intolerance

Participants from some 50 countries turned up in Stockholm in late January for an international conference on combating intolerance. The conference was a follow-up to the Stockholm International Forum on the Holocaust held in 2000. The aim was to encourage the development of networking and cooperation in such areas as education, legislation and the role of the local community in combating racism, antisemitism and xenophobia.

### The terror attacks in the US

The terrible events that took place in the US on 11 September dominated the autumn of 2001. The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon cast a shadow over the remainder of the year. The Prime Minister's Office coordinated efforts to ensure that Swedish public authorities gathered information about what had happened and took the necessary security precautions.

The task of the *Prime Minister's Office* is to administer and coordinate Government business and also manage Cabinet meetings and minutes. In addition, the Prime Minister's Office coordinates Swedish EU policy.

The Deputy Prime Minister relieves the Prime Minister of certain tasks and is responsible for constitutional issues relating to the Instrument of Government.

Most of the staff at the Prime Minister's Office are political appointees but there are also a number of non-political employees, mostly working with legal issues.

## MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

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Better judicial and police systems, greater efforts to prevent crime and two new policy areas to manage – consumer policy and youth affairs. Despite the Swedish presidency, the Ministry of Justice concerned itself with more than EU affairs alone in 2001. While the EU did dominate activities, the ministry also found time for matters like the development of democracy and public administration.

### Anti-terrorist precautions

The terrorist attacks on the US on 11 September affected the work of the Ministry of Justice. A special investigator was appointed by the Government to review and analyse the country's preparedness for emergencies and its capacity for preventing, combating and dealing with events such as large-scale terrorist attacks.

The attacks also caused the EU to negotiate two framework decisions: one on ways of combating terrorism and a second on a European arrest warrant. In December, the Council of Ministers voted to broaden Europol's mandate, and the Council also agreed in principle to establish a new European prosecution authority, Eurojust.

### More police

Following the riots that marred the EU summit in Göteborg in June, the Government appointed a committee to examine the question of how the police

are to prevent and combat serious public disturbances in future.

Despite the disturbances in Göteborg and the terrorist attacks in the US, however, the main focus of the ministry's work during the year was the continuing reform of the police and public prosecution authorities. At the Government's request, the Riksdag increased its appropriation to the police by a further SEK 600m. The money is to be used to boost the number of police officers and to enhance community policing.

### Reform of the judiciary

Work on reforming the Swedish judiciary continued in 2001. In the spring, the Government presented a follow-up to the action plan submitted to the Riksdag in the spring of 2000. A number of changes were introduced during the year. In addition, the National Audit Office is currently scrutinising the changes made in the organisational structure of the Swedish district court system in 1999–2001.

A growing problem is the large number of cancellations of district court trials – as many as one in four. During the year, therefore, the Government presented proposals aimed at remedying this situation.

### Penal system under pressure

The number of long-term prisoners, substance abusers and mentally ill persons in Swedish correctional care has increased. At the same time, the effects of budget cuts and structural changes introduced in recent years have begun to tell. Taken as a whole, this exerted

considerable pressure on correctional services, but as of 2001 the system has had greater resources at its disposal.

An experimental programme, From Confinement to Freedom, was launched on 1 October, the aim of which is to facilitate the transition of inmates from prison life to life in the community.

IT development is a kind of change that offers new and different opportunities for criminal activity. In light of this and other factors, the rules concerning preparation to commit an offence were changed on 1 July to make it easier to combat serious crime at the planning stage.

## Constitutional laws for the 21st century

Seeking to adapt the Swedish Constitution to a new era, new partnerships and new technology, the Ministry of Justice presented the Riksdag with four separate constitutional bills in 2001. The proposals focused on:

- changes relating to Sweden's participation in EU cooperation,
- a new and independent national audit of state activities,
- how the principle of public access to official documents may be adapted to the advance of information technology, and
- greater constitutional protection for new media.

## Time for democracy

How do the citizens of Sweden exercise their power? The Ministry of Justice is seeking to answer this question via a long-term democratic development project entitled 'Time for Democracy'. Meanwhile, a new government agency, the Election Authority, was established on 1 July 2001 and entrusted with the task of ensuring that general elections and referendums are reliable and efficient.

The 'Open Sweden' project, which aims to make people more aware of the principle of public access to official documents, is one of the activities that make up the Government's action programme in the administrative policy field. New rules have also been introduced in the EU enabling citizens of Europe to gain access to official documents more easily.

## Better consumer services

The Ministry of Justice took over responsibility for consumer policy and youth affairs on 1 January. Three important developments in the consumer field in 2001 were the presentation and parliamentary adoption of a plan for how consumer affairs are to be dealt with in 2001–2005, the introduction by the EU of stricter rules against hazardous products and the establishment of a European Consumer Centre in Sweden.

*The Ministry of Justice* is responsible for constitutional law in Sweden as well as many other kinds of legislation such as penal law, procedural law, civil law, market practices legislation, general administrative law and the Local Government Act. The ministry has overall responsibility for ensuring that Swedish laws maintain high legal and linguistic standards. The ministry's remit also includes the judiciary, the prosecution authorities, the police authorities and the correctional system. Further, it prepares decisions on pardons and expulsions, etc, related to criminal offences. In addition, it has overall responsibility at the Government Offices for leading and coordinating Sweden's participation in the EU's Third Pillar activities (judicial and home affairs). As of 1 January, the ministry also has overall responsibility for consumer policy and youth affairs. Another task is to encourage greater democracy and popular participation in decision-making processes. Other areas of responsibility include public administration policy and staff policy in the central government sector.

Some 200 public authorities with a total of 40,000 employees are attached to the ministry.

## MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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European cooperation, security policy and export promotion were the principal issues addressed by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs in 2001.

The first six months were devoted mainly to Sweden's EU presidency, which focused in particular on EU enlargement, employment and environmental affairs. The member states also took important steps towards a common foreign policy.

On the domestic front, the Government invited the parliamentary parties to join in a series of unifying discussions on Swedish security policy. Peace promotion and conflict prevention are becoming increasingly important.

Other central concerns in 2001 included the promotion of Swedish exports and Swedish investments abroad.

### Northern development

Secure, stable and sustainable development is to prevail throughout northern Europe. This is one of the aims of the EU's Northern Dimension. Work in this area was carried forward during Sweden's presidency of the EU and progress was made on such issues as the fight against organised crime. Cooperation with Russia, too, was strengthened at all levels and in all areas. On Sweden's initiative, a unique joint programme was launched to address current problems relating to environmental destruction and nuclear waste.

In March 2001, Sweden assumed the chairmanship

of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council, which focuses on customs issues, transport, energy, the environment, public health and youth affairs in the Barents region, i.e. the northern parts of Finland, Norway and Sweden and north-western Russia.

### Cooperation with the whole of Europe

A political breakthrough was achieved in the negotiations on EU enlargement when the EU's heads of state and government met in Göteborg in June. The leaders agreed to conclude the negotiations with the best-prepared candidate countries by the end of 2002. They also adopted a European programme for the prevention of armed conflict.

How can Sweden help the countries of Central and Eastern Europe to develop? In April, the Government presented a new programme for 2002–2003.

South-eastern Europe is a corner of the continent in which particularly vigorous efforts are required. A Stability Pact for this region has been in place since 1999, designed to facilitate democratic development and respect for human rights. Sweden continued to take an active part in this work in 2001. In the military field, Sweden was represented by a battalion attached to the international force operating in Kosovo (KFOR). This battalion was temporarily strengthened in 2001.

### Sweden and the world

The terrorist attacks on the US on 11 September left their mark on global cooperation. Today, the EU and

the UN are collaborating even more closely on crisis management and conflict prevention. In December, the Government proposed that Sweden should take part in the multinational security force in Afghanistan. In November, the UN member states adopted a Swedish resolution calling for further bans in the Convention on Conventional Weapons (CCW). On the UN's behalf, Sweden is also leading the negotiations on the nuclear non-proliferation treaty. During the autumn, Sweden initiated an international process – the Stockholm process – to review the issue of targeted UN sanctions. Another of Sweden's international missions concerns West Africa. The EU has entrusted Sweden with the task of formulating a cohesive European policy vis-à-vis Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

## More human rights

The promotion of human rights informs all aspects of Swedish foreign policy. But despite progress in some areas, much remains to be done. How, for instance, should genocide, crimes against humanity and war crimes – the gravest offences in international law – be punished? The International Criminal Court, which is to deal with such cases, plans to begin operating in 2002. Sweden joined the ICC in 2001.

## The development struggle

In 2001, the Swedish foreign aid budget was increased to 0.73 per cent of Gross National Income (GNI). Sweden is one of four countries in the world to have achieved the UN's minimum aid target of 0.7 per cent.

For several years now, Sweden has been one of the largest aid donors to Afghanistan. As a result of the deteriorating situation in the country and the fall of the Taliban regime, Swedish aid was increased to a total of SEK 325m for 2001.

During its presidency of the EU, Sweden organised a conference in June to discuss the question of how EU member states can contribute to a globalisation process benefiting poor people as well.

## Better review of asylum cases

In order to deal with refugee flows in Europe, the EU needs to coordinate its asylum and migration policy. An important step was taken in this respect at an EU meeting in Stockholm in February of ministers responsible for judicial and home affairs.

The situation of asylum-seeking children is a matter of particular concern. As of 2001, they have the same right to an education as other children in Sweden.

Much criticism has been levelled at the way certain asylum cases are dealt with in Sweden. To improve legal protection of the individual and increase transparency in asylum review procedures, the Government will be bringing a bill before the Riksdag in 2002 with proposals on how aliens and citizenship cases are to be dealt with and by whom.

## Trade as the key to prosperity

During the Swedish presidency, the EU countries decided to give the 48 poorest countries in the world

free access to EU markets. This will apply to all goods except arms. Another practical result of the Swedish presidency was a new customs strategy.

After failing to reach agreement on a number of previous occasions, the member countries of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) decided in November to hold a new round of multilateral trade talks. The agenda is to cover most of the issues that Sweden and the EU view as priorities, including the environment, agriculture, investment and competition.

*The Ministry for Foreign Affairs* compiles the information and formulates the options on which the Government bases its foreign policy decisions. The ministry's brief includes foreign and security policy, international development cooperation, trade policy, consular and civil law matters, international law and human rights, migration and asylum policy, export and trade promotion and the dissemination of information about Sweden abroad.

Attached to the ministry are 10 government agencies in Sweden and embassies, representations, consulate-generals and consulates as well as some 400 honorary consulates abroad.

## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

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The Swedish defence is currently undergoing the most sweeping changes seen in recent history. The defence reform aims to create a modern, flexible and mobile task force that can be used both to defend the country and for international missions.

Vulnerability has increased with the advance of technology – the information society is placing new demands on national security. In 2001, work continued on adapting Sweden's total defence system to the new era.

Under the Swedish presidency, the EU improved its crisis management capability.

### Revitalising Sweden's total defence

One of the key questions in the current restructuring of Sweden's defence is how the armed forces are to maintain adequate supplies of equipment, research and staff. The Government presented proposals on this issue in September, noting the need for a clear link between the specific tasks of the armed forces and their equipment and research requirements. The bill called for more extensive international cooperation to ensure Sweden of a safe supply of strategic defence equipment. Also, an integrated approach was to be taken to the total defence system's personnel requirements. The Government proposed, for instance, that career officers be required to serve internationally, and called for a reduction in the number of conscripts on civilian service. It also called for an overall planning system for national

preparedness both for serious peacetime emergencies and when the Swedish defence is on heightened alert.

The Government is also in the process of developing an overall strategy for how Sweden is to deal with new threats in the information society.

### Prosecution for marine discharges

Accident prevention is a part of Sweden's total defence system. One type of accident is when ships discharge pollutants into marine waters. But bringing the culprits to justice has proved difficult. Consequently, the Government presented proposals in May enabling the authorities to bring those responsible for unlawful discharges in Sweden's economic zone before a Swedish court. The new rules will enable the coastguard service to initiate and pursue preliminary investigations into unlawful discharges.

### Sweden in the Balkans and the Baltic States

Sweden contributed some 30 officers to the Baltic States and 900 troops to the Western Balkans in 2001. Support for strategic equipment and the transfer of expertise are part of Sweden's bilateral programmes with Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. In Kosovo, Sweden has contributed a battalion that was reinforced in April-November by a mechanised rifle company. In Bosnia, Swedish personnel have primarily been involved in civilian-military collaboration efforts. During the year, Sweden also worked actively to promote Russian involvement in European cooperation

and on behalf of closer Nordic ties. In June, for instance, Sweden, Denmark, Norway and Finland signed an agreement on industrial cooperation in the defence equipment field.

## EU ready for crisis management

The EU is now in a position to lead crisis management operations, according to a declaration by heads of state and government at the Laeken summit in Belgium in December. During the year, shortcomings in the EU's crisis management capability were analysed, the EU countries reached agreement on policies and programmes for joint manoeuvres in preparation for crisis management operations, and the European Security and Defence Policy was allocated further civilian and military resources. Also, the ESDP continued to develop its organisation. Further, the

Swedish presidency organised a seminar in mid-April on civilian-military collaboration.

*The Ministry of Defence* is responsible for Sweden's total defence organisation, comprising military defence, civil defence and accident prevention.

Military defence primarily involves the armed forces. Materiel supply and defence industry issues also come under the ministry's jurisdiction. Civil defence encompasses national rescue services, coastguard services, matters relating to the transportation of hazardous goods and the handling of inflammable and explosive products, civil defence coordination at the Government Offices and national preparedness for severe peacetime emergencies.

The ministry has 11 government agencies under its jurisdiction.

## MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

A new form of public benefit for the elderly and a balance sheet assessing Swedish welfare. These were two of the activities of the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs in 2001.

The Government is also investing billions in reducing waiting times for medical treatment and has taken steps to improve the financial position of families with children.

An action plan for better health in working life was drawn up during the year and the question of how to regulate biotechnology and genetics climbed up the ministry's agenda.

### New benefits for the elderly and the disabled

Old people with inadequate pensions should not have to depend on social benefit for their upkeep. This principle prompted the Government to introduce a new allowance – maintenance support for the elderly. Other new rules concerned fee levels for care of the elderly and the disabled. Here, a system of high-cost protection was introduced on 1 July 2002. In addition, nine government agencies were given more specific instructions to ensure that policy goals for the disabled are achieved in their respective areas.

### Swedish welfare assessed

How did Swedish welfare make out during the economically precarious 1990s? At the end of the decade, it was time to balance the books. In October

2001, the Welfare Commission presented its final report on the subject. Trends in the 1990s were described in terms of health, education, work, security, social relations and political resources.

Since 1998, another government committee has been examining the question of how to deal with homelessness. It delivered its final report in December 2001 and proposed a wide range of measures. At the same time, SEK 30m was set aside for new types of support for the homeless.

### Shorter waits for treatment

In order to reduce waiting periods and shorten healthcare queues, the Government is allocating SEK 3,750m over a three-year period starting in 2002. As the situation varies from region to region, measures will differ. Accordingly, all county councils were instructed to analyse the situation in their area and draw up action plans for the period as a whole. These plans were submitted in December 2001.

### Keeping down costs for medicine

Costs for medicines are on the increase and in 2000 the cost of medicine-related subsidies and benefits amounted to almost SEK 15,600m. The question is, what should be subsidised and how? The Government has presented a new bill containing a number of proposals in this respect. It wants to establish a new government agency with responsibility for deciding which medicines are to be included in the benefit system, and also wants a general shift in approach

whereby prescription medicines are replaced by the cheapest corresponding medicines.

### Biobanks and genetic privacy

Hitherto, no laws have been introduced on the management of biological materials, but in December the Government submitted legislative proposals concerning biobanks in Swedish healthcare. Under this bill, the consent of the individual must be sought before specimens of tissue are collected and stored. A committee inquiring into genetic privacy began work during the year. Its task is to assess issues relating to the genetic examination of private individuals and to make recommendations.

### Better deals for families and the retired

Child allowance was increased by SEK 100 a month per child on 1 January 2001. During the spring, the Riksdag voted to extend the parental insurance period by a further 30 days from 2002. Another improvement for families with children, announced in 2001, was an increase in the basic parental benefit level.

A bill submitted in March provided for an activity allowance and sickness benefit in place of the existing disability pension, and at the end of May the Government submitted a bill specifying new rules for housing supplements to old-age pensioners.

### A healthier working life

Some 120,000 people were on long-term sick leave in Sweden in 2001. Health in working life must be improved. To this end, the Government presented a wide-ranging programme of measures during the year. In December, the Government also proposed new rules for work injury insurance. When the rules were made more stringent in 1993, the number of injuries classified as work-related declined sharply. The proposed new rules will make it easier for people to have their cases recognised as work injuries.

### Towards better public health

National objectives for public health in Sweden were formulated during the year, along with a structure for their follow-up. Intensifying the fight against illicit drugs, the Government developed a national action plan against drugs during the autumn. It described the ultimate goal as a drug-free Sweden. It also prescribed a ban on indirect tobacco advertising and proposed that all restaurants and cafés be required to have non-smoking areas.

The issue of public health has increasingly come to the fore in the international arena. Sweden took part in a special session of the UN General Assembly in June to discuss HIV/AIDS. Also, in February, Sweden and the EU hosted the WHO's European Ministerial Conference on Young People and Alcohol.

*The Ministry of Health and Social Affairs* is responsible for that part of Sweden's social welfare programme which aims to ensure the financial security of the citizen in connection with care and child-raising, illness, disability and parental leave, and in old age. Government policy aims to provide the conditions for social services and healthcare of good quality that are sensitive to the needs of users. Attached to the ministry in 2001 were 16 government agencies and two enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state.

## MINISTRY OF FINANCE

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Despite the international recession, Sweden was able to introduce major tax reductions in 2001. A number of other reforms included in the national budget concerned healthcare, education, social care and working life. The Government also announced a new target: halving dependence on social assistance by 2004.

Otherwise, the Swedish presidency of the EU had a considerable impact on the ministry's work during the year. While in office, Sweden pursued issues relating to full employment, the ageing population of Europe and EU enlargement.

### Six months in the EU presidency

During Sweden's presidency of the EU, a breakthrough occurred in efforts to achieve an integrated European finance market by the year 2005 and progress was made on the tax package designed to prevent harmful tax competition between countries. Also, for the first time, finance ministers and central bank governors from 13 EU countries and 15 candidate countries held a joint meeting, in Malmö.

### Sweden and the EU

The terrorist attacks in the US in September prompted the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the EU to step up efforts to combat both the laundering of illegal money and the financing of terrorist activities.

On the European continent, East and West engaged

in increasingly close collaboration. The macro economic benefits of EU enlargement will be greater than the costs, according to a report delivered during the year by the ministry's Expert Group on Public Finance (ESO).

The EU keeps track of national public finances in various ways. It made special note in Sweden's convergence programme of the relationship between public finances and an ageing population.

### Reforms in the national budget

Growth in the Swedish economy slackened as a result of the sharp international downturn. But the public debt continued to shrink and financial stability enabled the Government to introduce tax cuts in the budget. It also proposed more generous rules for work injury insurance, a higher floor and ceiling for unemployment benefits, a fee maximum for old-age care and additional resources for the healthcare sector.

### New fiscal initiatives

The green tax shift continues. During the year, the Government submitted proposals raising environment-related taxes and reducing taxes on work. Other fiscal proposals included further steps in the income tax reform and reduced rates for property tax. An additional improvement for many people was a reduction in the tax on union contributions and lower tax on environmentally certified company cars, as well as a decision to abolish VAT on books and magazines.

## Incentives to boost housing construction

There is a considerable housing shortage in Stockholm and other growth regions. During the year, a number of steps were taken to boost construction. Investment grants were introduced for the construction of rented housing and student accommodation. To encourage the development of technology that can reduce construction costs, a Construction Cost Forum was set up at the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning with the task of assembling and communicating knowledge in this field and promoting innovation.

The Government also proposed giving permanent legal status to a new form of tenure – cooperative leasing. This is a cross between regular right of tenancy and tenant-ownership, and gives residents a greater degree of influence than tenants in ordinary rented accommodation.

## Greater regional influence

What kind of power should Sweden's regions have and how are these regions to interact? Various models are being tested around the country. The Government has proposed that the model applied on a trial basis in the county of Kalmar – involving a different division of responsibilities between central and local government – be made permanent and be extended to all other regions. This will give local and regional government bodies a greater say throughout the country.

## Review of the Robin Hood tax

To even out certain economic imbalances between different areas, Sweden applies a municipal equalisation system. This is sometimes referred to as the Robin Hood tax – rich local authorities pay a fee and the money is distributed to poor local authorities via a grant. Changes were introduced into the scheme during the year. The Government also decided to appoint a committee to review the system.

The prime task of *the Ministry of Finance* is to fulfil the economic policy goals agreed on by the Government and the Riksdag. The ministry seeks to create a basis for sound public finances in accordance with the specified goals – a high and sustainable level of growth and increased employment.

In 2001, the Ministry of Finance was responsible for economic policy, the national budget, fiscal policy, customs tariffs, banking, insurance and security market legislation, national lotteries, certain enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state, housing policy, county administration and regional affairs, and local government finances, as well as international economic cooperation.

The ministry has under its jurisdiction more than 30 government agencies and 16 enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state.

## MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE

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The launching of an ambitious project against bullying in Swedish schools and the introduction of a new study support system from 1 July. These were two developments in the compulsory and higher education field in 2001 for which the Ministry of Education and Science was responsible. In the pre-school sector, the ministry paved the way for a fee ceiling due to come into force on 1 January 2002.

During the year, the EU countries agreed for the first time on the future goals of their educational systems. Other central issues, both national and European, were lifelong learning and greater international exchange in higher education.

### Results of the Swedish presidency

Higher quality in all areas of education and better access to higher education for all EU citizens. These are the EU's principal educational goals for the future. At the EU summit in Stockholm in March, biotechnology emerged as an area in which greater investment was needed. Also, a research conference held in Umeå in June focused on the issue of ethics and biotechnology. The need to recruit women for technological and scientific studies was emphasised at an informal meeting in Uppsala of EU ministers responsible for education and research. The meeting also discussed the need for an open, wide-ranging debate on the many new ethical questions confronting researchers and decision-makers.

### Adult education

The Government presented proposals during the year on how adult education – besides higher education – should be pursued in a society that demands lifelong learning. Public measures must be based on the needs of the individual.

### Schooling on equal terms

Independent or municipal schooling? Whichever is chosen, children and young people are entitled to equal standards of good quality education. From the pupils' viewpoint, there is not supposed to be any difference between standards at the various public and municipal schools. The Government now wants to introduce rules applying the same principle to all schools.

### Together – against bullying

In 2001, a national anti-bullying campaign was launched. The idea is to unite all the forces for good working both in and outside school to prevent mobbing and abusive behaviour. The project includes information folders, websites, conferences and local activities such as theatre, peer support among pupils and counselling.

### Open university

Greater diversity in higher education and lifelong learning are to be encouraged under new Government proposals for post-secondary education in Sweden.

The proposals include both legislative and regulatory changes and extra allocations of resources. In all, SEK 875m will be invested in this area over a three-year period.

## Greater international exchange

The Swedish Institute has been instructed to promote Sweden as a good country in which to study. The Government will also be making it easier for students to have their university or college qualifications from other countries taken into consideration here.

During the Swedish presidency, the EU adopted a recommendation concerning the mobility of students and teachers in the EU zone. People's opportunities for studying abroad also topped the agenda at the meeting of education ministers presided over by Sweden in Prague in May.

## New research funding

Access to new knowledge and the ability to use it is becoming increasingly crucial for growth and

prosperity. Funding for research and research training, therefore, is being increased by SEK 1,500m for the period 2000–2004. To further efforts to translate research findings into practical action, the Government has proposed that universities and other institutions of higher education be allowed to set up holding companies following official approval.

*The Ministry of Education and Science is responsible for preschool education and school-age care services, preschool classes, compulsory and upper secondary education, municipal and popular adult education, posts-secondary education, higher education (basic training and postgraduate studies) and research, and also for government agencies coming under its jurisdiction. In addition, the ministry is responsible for various forms of study funding for private individuals. Its responsibilities also include the special Adult Education Initiative (AEI) and the advanced vocational training programmes currently operating on a trial basis. A total of 84 government agencies come under the ministry's jurisdiction.*

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND FISHERIES

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Safe food and animal welfare were two central issues in 2001. As president of the EU, Sweden brought the establishment of the European Food Safety Authority a stage closer and helped develop stricter rules for pig farming and animal transportation.

The BSE crisis worsened during the year. The EU took a number of steps to prevent the disease spreading further. Sweden was the only EU country to escape BSE cases.

### The presidency of the EU

Both BSE and foot and mouth disease were pressing concerns during the Swedish presidency. Measures for combating the two diseases were discussed and steps taken in all institutions and at all levels.

Animal welfare, too, moved up the agenda. Sweden managed to speed up important decisions on animal welfare rules in pig farming as well as Council conclusions on animal transportation.

The EU ministers responsible for agriculture and fisheries adopted conclusions on the further integration of an environmental perspective and sustainable development into their respective policy areas.

As the EU president, Sweden headed a number of conferences, including an international animal welfare conference and a meeting to discuss an integrated approach to the food chain.

### Safer food and healthier livestock

The work already begun on food safety in the EU continued in 2001. A decision was taken to set up the European Food Safety Authority, and a framework law for the food sector was also developed.

During the year, the EU adopted important new rules on foreign substances in animal feed and on how feed is to be labelled and controlled. In connection with the BSE crisis, a ban was introduced on the use of meat and bone meal as feed for food-producing livestock. In addition, more stringent testing requirements were introduced.

In February, foot and mouth disease broke out in the UK and spread to Ireland, France and the Netherlands. In order to restore market balance in the wake of the BSE and foot and mouth crises, the EU introduced structural measures, including a reduction in animal quotas for meat producers.

### Agreements benefiting plant breeding

How are researchers and plant breeders to gain access to plant genetic resources from other countries? The International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources for Food and Agriculture adopted in November 2001 ended seven years of negotiations on this sensitive issue. During the Swedish presidency, the Ministry of Agriculture worked actively to move the negotiations forward. The core elements of the treaty are a multilateral system providing for easier access to the plant genetic resources it encompasses and a benefit sharing system when they are used.

## Information focus on the Samis

For the past year, an information programme has been under way to make Swedes more aware and appreciative both of the Samis as Sweden's indigenous population and of Sami culture. The aim is to contribute to a closer understanding between Samis and non-Samis and to combat discrimination. The programme is to continue for a further three years, and a national information centre for Sami affairs is to be set up.

## Discussions on agricultural reform

The EU's Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) still embraces import duties, export subsidies and subsidised agricultural production within the Union. This is an expensive policy that accounts for almost

half of the EU budget. It also has an adverse effect on agriculture in the developing countries. The CAP must be reformed, but the question is how? In Sweden, policy changes have been demanded for many years. When the issue was discussed at the meeting of EU agriculture ministers in Östersund in April, several countries came out in support of reform.

*The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Fisheries has a many-faceted brief and was responsible in 2001 for such areas as agriculture, environmental issues relating to agriculture, food, fishing, reindeer breeding, Sami affairs, horticulture, animal welfare, hunting and game preservation, and higher education and research in the country's land-based industries. The ministry presides over 12 government agencies.*

## MINISTRY OF CULTURE

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Professional authors, musicians and other creative artists must be able to support themselves through their work. This is a cornerstone of cultural policy in Sweden. But is the public social safety net attuned to artists' needs? The Government appointed a committee in 2001 to look into this question.

The year also brought proposals reducing VAT on literature, lowering rents for cultural institutions and establishing a new government agency, the Forum for Living History. This Holocaust-related information initiative, launched in 1997, is to become a permanent feature. In the media policy field, public service broadcasting, digital TV, and advertising that targets children were three major issues. The Government announced plans to develop public service broadcasting further and to expand the scope of digital TV.

### Determining artists' needs

During the year, a committee was appointed to determine how the social safety net in Sweden relates to the situation of creative artists, especially the self-employed and freelancers. Various ways of improving the situation of the artist are practised around Europe. During the Swedish presidency, a seminar was held in Visby to discuss the conditions underlying artistic creativity in Europe.

Something that indirectly helps certain artistic professions is more reading. In 2001, the Government

continued to encourage both the publication and the distribution of quality literature. Support for school libraries was maintained and VAT on books and magazines was reduced.

### New agency for living history

Racism, antisemitism, xenophobia and other anti-democratic manifestations must be combated. This was stated by the committee examining the question of a permanent Forum for Living History when it presented its final report in January 2001. An information programme with the same name has been under way since 1997. The committee proposed that a new government agency, the Forum for Living History, be established in Stockholm in the form of an easily accessible knowledge centre, suitable for school students and teachers in particular.

### Broadcasting democracy

In Sweden, public service broadcasting means radio and TV at the service of the general public. It is required to provide all citizens, wherever they may live in the country, with access to an all-round, independent range of programmes of good quality and free from commercial advertising. At the meeting of culture ministers in Falun in May, the EU member states agreed that each country had the sovereign right to decide its own activities in this respect.

During the year, the Government proposed more specific guidelines for programming at the Swedish Broadcasting Company (SR), Swedish Television (ST)

and the Swedish Educational Broadcasting Company (UR). It also presented proposals relating to the economic requirements for public service broadcasting, and prescribed greater diversity, more culture and more programmes for TV viewers, as well as public service broadcasting on the Internet.

## Digital TV

Expansion of the terrestrial digital TV network is an important policy concern. The final report of the committee reviewing digital TV in Sweden noted the illogicality of retaining analogue systems for TV broadcasting when all other types of communications systems were being digitalised. The modernisation of the terrestrial network is to be completed by such means as expanding digital public service programmes and phasing out analogue terrestrial broadcasting.

## Media content that threatens the young

A third of the EU member states have restrictions on advertising that targets children. There are no EU directives for this area. Sweden is one of the countries that has been at the forefront of efforts to protect children against certain kinds of media content, from violence to advertising targeting the young. In

September, the Swedish Government was awarded a prize by the US organisation Stop Commercial Exploitation of Children (SCEC) for its work in the EU on prohibiting advertising directed at children. As part of the Swedish presidency of the EU, a seminar of experts was held in Stockholm in February to discuss the issue of children and young people in the new media landscape.

In 2001, *the Ministry of Culture* was responsible for cultural policy and media policy.

Cultural policy embraces such areas as general cultural activities, theatre, dance and music, libraries, literature and cultural periodicals, art and design and applied arts, handicrafts, remuneration and grants to creative artists, film and video, archives, historical environments, museums and exhibitions, the Living History project, architecture, interior design, religious communities and research in the cultural sphere.

Media policy covers the daily press, radio and TV, and the protection of children and young people from harmful content in the media.

The ministry was also responsible in 2001 for 25 government agencies, some 35 institutions and foundations, etc, and four enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state.

## MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT

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The EU summit in Göteborg was a considerable success in environmental terms. Elsewhere, too, substantial progress was made in the environmental field during the Swedish presidency. In the first half of 2001, work at the Ministry of the Environment was totally dominated by the presidency.

On the domestic front, three important bills were laid before the Riksdag, concerning chemicals, national environmental objectives and climate change. The proposals involved phasing out dangerous chemical substances, achieving 15 environmental objectives within a generation and reducing Swedish emissions of greenhouse gases.

### Environmental progress on all fronts

During the Swedish presidency, the Council of Ministers reached decisions on all the environment issues that Sweden had prioritised. The priorities were: a new environmental programme for the EU, moves to stop climate change, a new chemicals policy and environmentally safer products. In addition, EU heads of state and government at the Göteborg summit adopted a strategy for sustainable development. Environmental negotiations with five future EU countries – the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania and Slovenia – also progressed well during the Swedish presidency and provisional agreement was reached.

## The EU's Sixth Environment Action Programme

At the EU Environment Council meeting in June, ministers agreed on a new environment action programme for the EU. The programme sets out guidelines for EU environmental policy for the ten-year period starting from its date of inception. Priority areas are climate change, nature and biodiversity, environment and health, and natural resources and waste.

### Working against climate change

The climate issue became a major concern for Sweden as EU president. At the beginning of 2001, the US pulled out of the 1997 Kyoto agreement on international cooperation against climate change. Despite this, the other countries of the world were able to agree in June 2001 on how the Kyoto Protocol was to be interpreted in principle, and a few months later they also agreed on the details.

In November, the Government proposed a 4 per cent reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases in Sweden by 2010 compared to 1990 levels. Sweden is also in the process of severing the link between economic growth and air pollution, a fact that emerged in its third national report on climate change.

### Chemicals policy

In June, the Environment Council adopted conclusions on the future course of EU chemicals policy, and in December it decided to further review the rules

governing pesticides. In a new bill presented in 2001, the Swedish Government specified which highly dangerous substances were to be phased out, and how, and also proposed that goods carry labelling showing their impact on health and the environment.

In the spring, the international community took a major step forward in the fight against highly dangerous chemicals, a category that includes our most damaging environmental toxins, PCB, DDT and dioxins. At an intergovernmental conference in Stockholm in May, many of the countries of the world signed a convention on the phaseout of what are termed persistent organic pollutants (POPs).

## Environmentally friendlier products

The EU's environment ministers also adopted a number of conclusions on an Integrated Product Policy (IPP). This policy involves ensuring environmental compatibility and greater resource efficiency throughout a product's life cycle in order to reduce the spread of dangerous substances and facilitate action against climate change.

## Swedish environmental objectives

The Swedish Government has drawn up 15 quality objectives for the environment that it wants to achieve

within a generation. In May, the Government proposed a range of fixed term, quantifiable interim goals leading towards the 15 national objectives, which include a non-toxic environment, preservation of the ozone layer, an end to eutrophication, and flourishing forests. All proposed bills and ordinances are to be accompanied by an assessment of their environmental impact.

*The Ministry of the Environment* was responsible in 2001 for issues relating to natural resources, nature conservation, biological diversity, water management and air pollution control, climate change, protection of the ozone layer, traffic environment issues, chemicals control, waste, sustainable development, the decontamination of environmentally damaged areas, environmental protection, community planning, surveying, meteorology and geotechnics, construction and the indoor environment, nuclear safety and radiation protection, environmental research/monitoring, international environmental cooperation and coordination of the Government's environment policy. Thirteen government agencies came under the ministry's jurisdiction.

## MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

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Despite widespread redundancies in 2001, Sweden topped the employment league. But a dark cloud on the employment horizon was growing evidence of stress and ill-health. The Government presented a wide-ranging programme aimed at reversing the rapid increase in sick leave around the country.

Work on simplifying the rules for small businesses continued and the ministry developed a bill outlining regional policy for the new era. An action plan against racism and discrimination was presented and further progress was made towards gender equality, not least during Sweden's six months in the EU presidency.

### Outcome of the EU presidency

At the EU summit in Stockholm, the EU and its member states committed themselves to the goal of full employment adopted a year earlier. They also agreed that the EU must comprise active welfare states and that the European electricity and gas markets must be liberalised.

At the summit in Göteborg, the member states decided to establish a single European sky for aviation by the end of 2004 and also ruled that 22 per cent of electricity production in the EU was to come from renewable energy sources by the year 2010.

A number of additional decisions were taken aimed at making the EU a more modern and competitive economy emphasising sustainable growth.

### Uncertainty in the labour market

In 2001, Sweden had the best employment record in the EU. The Government's goal of reducing unemployment to a maximum 4 per cent had been achieved by the end of 2000.

Part-time unemployment remains a problem, but during the year corrective measures by local and regional authorities began to yield results. In the healthcare and social care sectors, part-time unemployment has fallen by a third.

In other sectors, however, and in certain geographical areas, many jobs disappeared. In all, around 70,000 people were given notice to quit during the year. To help areas affected by closures to readjust, the Government appointed a special liaison officer in March whose task is to negotiate with the parties concerned.

### Ways of promoting gender equality

The Government is currently considering how a gender and equal opportunity perspective can best be integrated into all its policies and how progress in this area might be specified in the national budget process. The Government wants to become better at assessing results and charting the extent to which gender equality goals are being achieved. Methods and models from various organisations at various levels in society have been assembled in a special book of methods published by the ministry's Working Group for Method Development in Gender Equality.

With a view to stopping violence against women, a

number of projects were allocated funding during the year – including projects for women and girls from immigrant backgrounds.

## Strong push for integration

The ministry's integration work in 2001 included greater efforts to combat racism, local initiatives against discrimination, and labour market initiatives to help immigrants. Anti-racist activities are to receive stronger backing from 2002, and local and regional anti-discrimination programmes are to begin on a trial basis.

In 2001, the Government launched a programme specifically aimed at boosting employment among the country's immigrants. At the end of the year, a special committee was appointed to review how refugees were being received and introduced into society in Sweden.

## Information society for all

Expansion of the broadband network continued during the year. This is one of the stages in the implementation of the Government's IT policy bill. The aim is for Sweden to become the first country to make the information society universally accessible. During the spring, the Government initiated a programme to boost IT competence among small businesses throughout the country. The Government also initiated a programme aimed at increasing the use of IT among companies located in priority areas for regional policy.

## More companies, more growth

Sweden needs more and expanding companies to ensure stronger economic growth. It is important, therefore, to make it easier for people to establish new businesses. On 1 January 2001, a national competence centre was set up focusing on financing, business development, entrepreneurship and the promotion of regional trade and industry.

The Government is seeking to ensure that new rules and revisions do not excessively complicate matters for small businesses. Consequently, the implications of such changes for this group are being examined at the Government Offices.

To determine which regulations need simplifying, a reference group of small business representatives and experts held a number of meetings during the year. Simpler rules were also a priority concern in the EU in 2001.

## Research and development

Research and development are necessary for growth. The Swedish Agency for Innovation Systems, VINNOVA, was set up on 1 January 2001. Its task is to gather needed research in such fields as technology, transport, communications and working life under one roof with a view to strengthening Swedish innovation systems and contributing to sustainable development and growth.

## Sports without doping

All sporting activities must be free from doping, both those organised by the Swedish Sports Confederation and other kinds of activities. This is the overall goal of a Government action plan against doping in sport, prepared by a ministry working group during the year. More than 200 projects were started by clubs and associations in 2001 with funding from the Swedish Inheritance Fund specially earmarked by the Government for the purpose. The aim of the programme is to develop local sporting activities for children, young people and people with disabilities.

*The Ministry of Industry, Employment and Communications was responsible in 2001 for the following areas: employment policy, working life, gender equality, integration and diversity, minorities policy, metropolitan development, regional development, the EU Structural Funds, social economy, sports, tourism, transport policy, infrastructure, energy, postal services, telecommunications and radio, IT, competition, industrial development, research and development, enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state, base industries and forestry, and mining and minerals.*

A total of 43 government agencies, among them three public enterprises and two courts of law, came under the ministry's jurisdiction in 2001, as well as 29 enterprises wholly or partly owned by the state.

## OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE AFFAIRS

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All the practical arrangements had to work during Sweden's presidency of the EU, despite the added burden on switchboards, computer systems, websites and premises. The Office for Administrative Affairs, which acts as a service organisation for the Government Offices as a whole, was therefore allocated extra staff and resources.

Even without the EU presidency, there is plenty to do at the Government Offices. In point of fact, the operation is too large for the number of staff employed there. This emerged from a study by the Office for Administrative Affairs. In order to reduce the resource gap, the Riksdag increased the Government Offices' appropriation for 2002–2004 during the year.

At the same time, projects were launched to make work at the Government Offices both smoother and more efficient.

## Service provision during the presidency

More telephone calls, heavier computer traffic and live webcasting – the EU presidency meant an increased volume of practical work for the Government Offices. Many of the tasks involved were dealt with by the Office for Administrative Affairs. During the presidency, it increased staffing capacity by reinforcing the IT support department, the communications centre, the cipher department, the switchboard, the office services department and the cleaning staff.

## Larger appropriations

A report from 2000 on dimensioning in the Government Offices showed that there are too few employees for the work in hand. To bring staffing up to strength, the authority's appropriation for 2002–2004 was increased by SEK 340m.

## Smoother and more efficient work

With the injection of extra funds to solve the Government Offices' staffing problems, the operation itself must become more efficient. In September, the Government launched a project designed to generate proposals for streamlining work at the Government Offices. Also, a pilot study was initiated on a trial basis involving qualitative self-assessment as practised in the higher education sector.

## Increased procurement

In recent years, procurement activities have been stepped up at the Government Offices. As of 2000, the ministries are required to report procurement contracts exceeding one price base amount (SEK 36,900 in 2001). A register is then kept of planned and completed procurements. In 2001, the procurement operation was reinforced by three new procurement officers, and support to the ministries was stepped up.

## Assessing the workplace

For the third consecutive year, an attitude study was conducted at the Government Offices to determine how staff view their work situation. The results showed that employees there were decidedly more positive about their work situation and their working environment than the average employee in Sweden. But they were not satisfied to the same extent with pay and benefits and with the Government Offices as an employer.

## Better access to information

A new search engine, a common website for all school information and a wide range of webcasts. The Swedish Government website, [www.regeringen.se](http://www.regeringen.se), developed further during the year, and interest in the site remained high. In 2001, it received around 2.9m visits. Webcasts and internal tv broadcasts numbered 460 during the year. The Government Information Shop in Drottninggatan in central Stockholm received 14,500 visitors during the year and dealt with around 90 group study visits by some 2,250 people in all.

## Many visitors to the archives

To enable more people to obtain access to official documents, the Government Offices Records Centre

was opened in late 2000. In 2001, the centre received almost 3,000 visitors. A total of 405 loans were registered while the number of registered inquiries ('research matters') was 1,233.

*The Office for Administrative Affairs pursues and develops general administrative matters at the Swedish Government. This means that general matters relating to administrative control and management, finances and staff policy, IT and information and communications all come within the Office's remit, along with all forms of internal service. Services include the supply of premises and fittings, security and contingency planning, procurement and purchasing, services to committees and commissions of inquiry, switchboard staffing and office services. The Office for Administrative Affairs is headed by the Permanent Secretary at the Prime Minister's Office.*

*A central task is to complete the work of bringing together all ministries in a single, integral authority, the Government Offices, in accordance with a Government decision in 1996.*

## Chapter 4 • The Swedish presidency

*On 1 January 2001, Sweden assumed the presidency of the EU Council of Ministers for the first time.*

Following years of preparation, the big day finally arrived. On 1 January 2001, Sweden assumed the presidency of the EU's Council of Ministers for the first time. The six months that followed represented the culmination of an intensive period of work for the Swedish Government, for the Government Offices and for Sweden's Permanent EU Representation in Brussels.

And there was no lack of progress. Historic agreements on EU enlargement, a new goal for European employment and environmental decisions paving the way for sustainable societies were just some of the results achieved in Sweden's priority areas – enlargement, employment and the environment.

In some quarters, the Swedish presidency was not expected to achieve much. But summing it up afterwards, Anders J Ericson, Press Councillor at the Swedish EU Representation in Brussels, described the presidency as a “hard-won victory all round (...) both in terms of results and in media terms. A presidency characterised by hard work, a high level of efficiency and many (positive) results.”

## Well prepared

A precondition for success was of course thorough preparation, both political and practical. Responsibility for coordinating the work lay with the Prime Minister's Office. Aided by the Foreign Ministry's Division for EU Affairs and the rest of the Government Offices, it had drawn up a work

programme for the Swedish presidency and identified priorities.

Sweden's incumbency meant that Swedish ministers and senior officials presided over a very extensive range of meetings at all levels – some 70 ministerial meetings and more than 1,000 meetings of Council working parties. Many were held in Brussels and Luxembourg, with the Swedish Permanent Representation in Brussels as the central coordinator. A specially appointed 2001 Secretariat at the Foreign Ministry was given responsibility for the practical planning of meetings and visits in Sweden. As may be imagined, the EU presidency necessitated extensive communication across ministerial boundaries and between the Government Offices and the Brussels Representation. Often, time was at a premium, which meant efficient coordination was imperative. It was precisely skilled coordination, together with clearly formulated goals and priorities, that helped make the Swedish presidency such a success.

But what was actually achieved? And in which areas? Let us start with the three profile priorities: enlargement, employment and the environment.

## Breakthrough for enlargement

Sweden's objective for the EU enlargement process was “to pave the way for a political breakthrough in the negotiations”. This could either mean making substantial progress in the negotiations under way between the EU and the candidate countries on the Union's regulatory framework, or, alternatively,

reaching agreement on a timetable for the conclusion of the enlargement process.

In the event, both goals were achieved, and by a handsome margin.

In tough negotiations that lasted through the spring, a number of difficult issues were resolved and the breakthrough on the timetable came at the EU summit in Göteborg in June. At that meeting, the EU heads of state and government also declared that enlargement was irrevocable.

## Full employment and greater environmental care

The other two priorities were employment and the environment. In the employment field, Sweden sought to successfully follow up the objectives agreed on by the EU leaders in Lisbon in March 2000. As a result of the Lisbon process begun at that time, the EU was to become the world's leading growth economy within ten years, with more and better jobs and greater social cohesion.

At the Stockholm summit, the environmental dimension was incorporated into the strategy from Lisbon. In addition, a sustainable development perspective is now to be applied in the environmental field as well as in the economic and social spheres. The EU heads of state and government took this step at the following summit, in Göteborg in June, when they adopted a strategy for sustainable development. Under the Swedish presidency, agreement was also reached on specific environmental objectives relating to climate change, transport, public health and natural resources.

Besides environment policy, three further areas were added to the agenda of the Lisbon process at the Stockholm summit.

Firstly, the member states raised the problem of an ageing European population. In order to meet this demographic challenge, the EU leaders in Stockholm stressed that efforts would be made to boost employment, reduce national debts and reform pensions systems.

Secondly, the summit highlighted the importance of biotechnology for the European economy. And thirdly, the EU countries decided to bring the candidate countries into the work currently under way to achieve the objectives agreed on in Lisbon.

## International successes

On the foreign policy front, the Swedish presidency was highly successful, particularly in its resolute efforts to persuade the EU to act as a unified body in the international arena.

During the spring, the EU managed to formulate a cohesive policy towards developments in the *Western Balkans*. In the case of the *Middle East* conflict, the EU came out strongly and unanimously in support of the Mitchell Report containing recommendations on how the peace process might be resurrected. The EU's relations with Russia progressed as a result of greater cooperation on environmental issues, economic affairs and trade, and of discussions on a future Russian membership of the World Trade Organisation, WTO. In Göteborg, the EU found itself in agreement with the US on a platform that would enable the WTO to initiate a

new round of talks. Also, the ten-year-old banana dispute between the EU and the US was resolved during the Swedish presidency. Further, it was agreed to pursue a joint European-American policy for peace in the Middle East. The EU and the US failed to agree, however, on the Kyoto Protocol, which aims to reduce global emissions of greenhouse gases affecting the climate. The EU also concerned itself with developments on the *Korean Peninsula* and Prime Minister Göran Persson visited the region in his capacity as EU president.

An important development in the international trade policy sphere was the *'Everything But Arms'* programme initiative. This agreement will eventually give the 48 least developed countries of the world duty-free access to the EU for all goods except weapons and ammunition.

## Greater cooperation on security

During the Swedish presidency, the EU improved its crisis management capability in several important respects. A vital contribution was a decision by the EU and the United Nations to collaborate more closely on military and civil crisis management. The EU countries also agreed with the UN and with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) on principles and areas of mutual cooperation in civil crisis management.

In addition, the EU drew up goals for how the Union's own crisis management organisation is to work, not least as regards the number of police.

On the military plane, the EU's military

organisation was established as a permanent body on 1 January 2001. Further, the EU countries launched a special project to review their military capability objectives. The aim is to provide a better basis for decisions on what the various member states are to contribute in the way of military input.

Work on preventing conflicts received added impetus at the Göteborg summit when the EU leaders agreed on a conflict prevention programme. One of its aims is to strengthen cooperation with other international organisations and the civil society.

## The first step in the asylum system

Conflicts and crises often lead to mass flight. The EU countries had previously agreed on the creation of a joint asylum system, and during the Swedish presidency a breakthrough was achieved on EU legislation and harmonisation work in this area. The countries decided to assume joint responsibility in a crisis situation and change the rules so that those in need could be provided with immediate temporary shelter. The EU countries also adopted more stringent measures for dealing with the smuggling of illegal immigrants and others.

## Progress on transparency

When the Swedish presidency began, member states had differing opinions about how the rules governing public access to documents at EU institutions were to be formulated. But as the presidential incumbent, Sweden managed to reconcile opposing views and bring

the negotiations on new transparency rules to a successful conclusion. The new rules will not have any adverse effect on the Swedish transparency rules and mark an important step towards more open working methods in the Union.

The Swedish presidency was distinguished by a determination to conduct EU business in an open and easily accessible way throughout. This was particularly evident from the content of the Swedish presidency website, [www.eu2001.se](http://www.eu2001.se), where agendas, press releases and other kinds of background material were published immediately to a greater extent than during previous presidencies. The website considerably eased the pressure on both responsible officials and press officers.

The member states and the media were also supplied with lists of contacts as well as the telephone numbers of key figures to facilitate their access to quick and correct information.

## Dealing with the unexpected

Mad cow disease and the outbreaks of foot and mouth disease that occurred in a number of member states were unforeseen events that placed severe demands on the presidency. The BSE problem was discussed at all six meetings of the EU agriculture ministers held during Sweden's term in office.

Another event towards the end of the Swedish presidency cast a dark shadow over the politically successful Göteborg summit. The riots on the streets of Göteborg made an indelible impression on all who witnessed them and horrified local residents, conference delegates and peaceful demonstrators alike. Besides analysing and reviewing what had happened, Sweden and the two countries that preceded and succeeded us in the EU presidency, France and Belgium, agreed to establish a high-level working group for the purpose of developing a programme guaranteeing freedom of assembly and freedom to demonstrate at major international meetings.

### The EU presidency

The presidency of the EU Council of Ministers rotates every six months between the member states in a prearranged order. Briefly, the presidency involves heading the work of the Council of Ministers, which meets in 16 different constellations, and of all its drafting bodies. Duties also include representing the Council of Ministers in its dealings with other EU institutions, international organisations and non-EU countries.

## Sweden's EU presidency – some figures

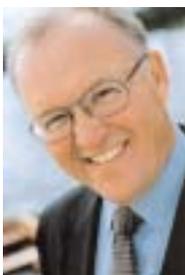
- During the spring of 2001, over 2,200 meetings were held in Brussels and Luxembourg with the Council of Ministers, the Conciliation Committee and all the various committees and working parties attached to the Council.
- Sweden appointed 315 presidents of 304 working parties and committees under the Council of Ministers.
- In Sweden, 77 meetings were held at 44 different locations around the country. No other presidential country has ever distributed its meetings so widely. In all, 10,350 delegates took part along with 4,800 media representatives.
- About 2,000 foreign journalists visited Sweden during the presidency.
- A total of 135 press conferences were held in Brussels, Luxembourg and Strasbourg, which averages out at more than one press conference per weekday throughout the presidency.
- The Riksdag had allocated an extra SEK 834 to the Government Offices for the preparation and implementation of the presidency. Costs were kept within the financial limits set by the Riksdag.
- Over 800,000 visits were registered at [www.eu2001.se](http://www.eu2001.se) – the Swedish EU presidency website.
- More than 400 upper secondary students from 95 classes at 50 schools around Sweden took part in the Young Reporters project. Between them they covered some 100 EU meetings and the project resulted in more than 700 articles published at the presidency website.
- To coincide with the presidency, an extensive programme of events focusing on Swedish culture and public life was organised. In all, 456 cultural projects were presented, primarily in Sweden, in the EU member states and in the candidate countries.

# Appendix

- *The Government in 2001*
- *The Government Offices Organisation in 2001*
- *Summary of Central Government Budget 2000–2001*
- *Table of Items 2000–2001*
- *Number of Employees at the Government Offices 2000–2001*
- *Staff Categories at the Government Offices 2000–2001*
- *Staff Structure at the Government Offices 2000–2001*
- *Recruitment at the Government Offices 2000–2001*
- *Government Offices Expenditure 2000–2001*

## THE GOVERNMENT IN 2001

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### **Göran Persson**

Born 20 January 1949 in Vingåker. University education, municipal counsellor, MP, chairperson of the Swedish Social Democratic Party. Minister, Ministry of Education, 1989–91, Minister for Finance 1994–1996. Prime Minister since 1996.



### **Lena Hjelm-Wallén**

Born 14 January 1943 in Sala. ME, teacher, MP. Minister, Ministry of Education, 1974–1976, Minister for Education 1982–85, Minister, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, 1985–1991, Minister for Foreign Affairs 1994–1998. Minister, Prime Minister's Office, and Deputy Prime Minister since 1998.



### **Ingela Thalén**

Born 1 October 1943 in Göteborg. Party district secretary, municipal counsellor, MP, party secretary. Labour Minister 1987–1991, Minister for Health and Social Affairs 1990–1991 and 1994–1996. Minister (Social Security), Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, since 1999.



### **Margareta Winberg**

Born 13 August 1947 in Sjuntorp. Trained school teacher, municipal and county counsellor, MP. Minister for Agriculture 1994–1996, Labour Minister 1996–1998. Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Gender Equality Affairs since 1998.



### **Marita Ulvskog**

Born 4 September 1951 in Luleå. Journalist, press secretary, newspaper editor. Minister for Public Administration 1994–1996. Minister for Culture since 1996.



### **Anna Lindh**

Born 19 June 1957 in Enskede. LLB, chairperson of the Young Social Democrats, MP. Minister for the Environment 1994–1998. Minister for Foreign Affairs since 1998.



### **Mona Sahlin**

Born 9 March 1957 in Sollefteå. MP, party secretary, entrepreneur. Labour Minister 1990–1991, Minister, Prime Minister's Office and Deputy Prime Minister 1994–1995. Minister, Ministry for Industry, Employment and Communications since 1998.



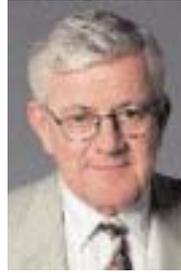
### **Björn von Sydow**

Born 26 November 1945 in Stockholm. PhD and Reader (Political Science), municipal counsellor, MP. Minister, Ministry for Trade and Industry, 1996–1997. Minister for Defence since 1997.



**Maj-Inger Klingvall**

Born 15 May 1946 in Nyköping.  
Dr Pol Sci, municipal counsellor, MP.  
Minister, Ministry for Health and  
Social Affairs, 1996–1999.  
Minister for Development  
Cooperation, Migration and Asylum  
Policy, Ministry for Foreign Affairs,  
since 1999–16 November 2001.



**Lars Engqvist**

Born 13 August 1945 in Karlskrona.  
Journalist, chairperson of the Young  
Social Democrats, newspaper editor,  
Managing Director, Swedish Film  
Institute. Minister, Ministry of the  
Interior, Minister, Ministry of Finance,  
1998. Minister for Health and Social  
Affairs since 1998.



**Leif Pagrotsky**

Born 20 October 1951 in Göteborg.  
Dr Political Science, graduate  
economist, senior lecturer.  
Minister, Prime Minister's Office,  
1996–1997, Minister, Ministry for  
Trade and Industry, 1997–1998.  
Minister for Trade, Ministry for  
Foreign Affairs, since 1998.



**Björn Rosengren**

Born 14 April 1942 in Stockholm.  
Engineer, chairperson of Swedish  
Confederation of Professional  
Employees (TCO), county governor,  
Norrbotten County.  
Minister for Industry, Employment  
and Communications since 1998.



**Thomas Östros**

Born 26 January 1965 in Gällivare.  
LSc (Pol Econ), municipal counsellor,  
MP.  
Minister, Ministry of Finance,  
1996–1998.  
Minister for Education and Science  
since 1998.



**Kjell Larsson**

Born 26 March 1943 in Göteborg.  
MSc Political Science, Director-  
General, Export Credits Guarantee  
Board.  
State Secretary, Prime Minister's  
Office, 1982–1991.  
Minister for the Environment since  
1998.



**Ulrica Messing**

Born 31 January 1968 in Hällefors.  
Teacher, social worker, municipal  
counsellor, MP. Minister, Ministry of  
Labour, 1996–1998. Minister,  
Ministry of Culture, 1998–2000.  
Minister, Ministry of Industry,  
Employment and Communications,  
from 16 October 2000.



**Ingegerd Wärnersson**

Born 19 January 1947 in Vetlanda.  
Junior school teacher, school head,  
municipal counsellor, MP.  
Minister for Schools and Adult  
Education, Ministry of Education and  
Science, since 1998.



**Britta Lejon**

Born 2 November 1964 in Stockholm.  
BSc, Desk Officer.  
Minister for Democratic Issues, Public Administration and Consumer Policies, Ministry of Justice, since 1998.



**Bosse Ringholm**

Born 18 August 1942 in Falköping.  
Chairperson of the Young Social Democrats, MP, county council commissioner, Director-General, National Labour Market Board.  
Minister for Finance since 1999.



**Lars-Erik Lövdén**

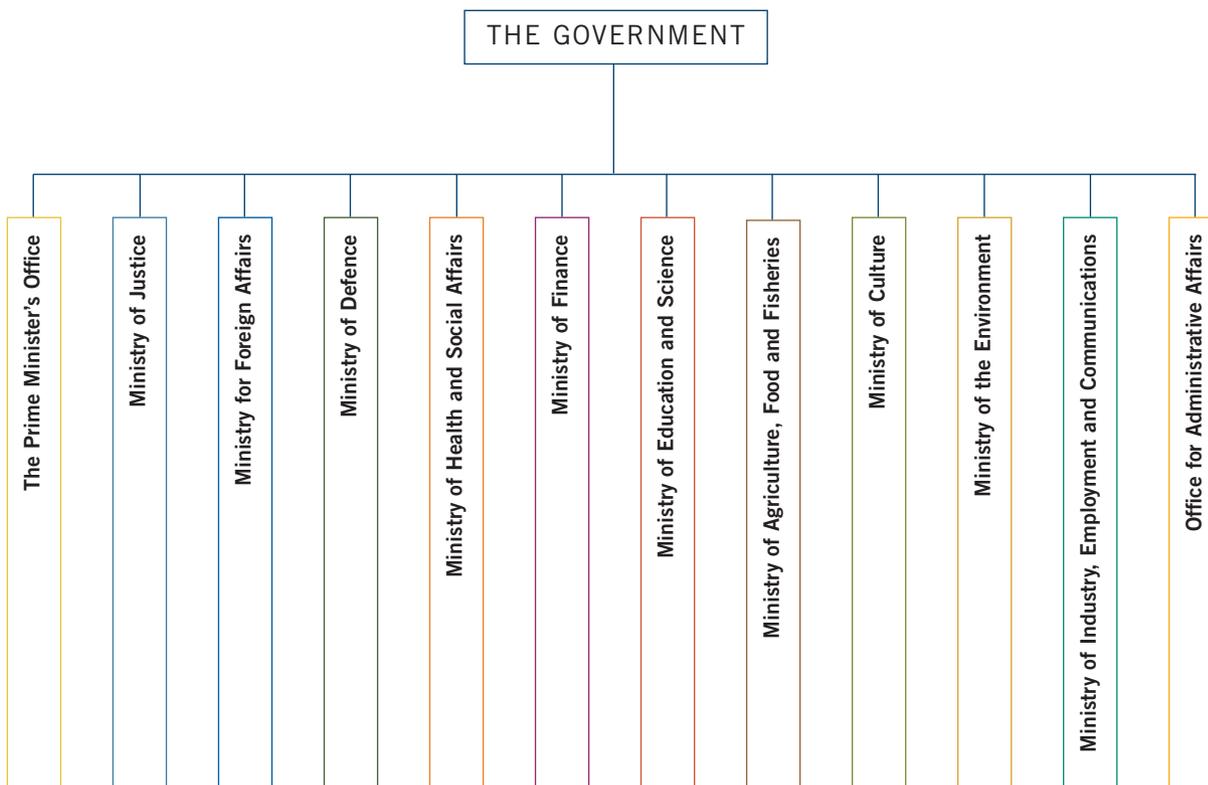
Born 11 January 1950 in Malmö.  
LLB, municipal counsellor, MP.  
Minister, Ministry of Finance, since 1998.



**Thomas Bodström**

Born 9 April 1962 in Uppsala.  
LLB, assistant legal adviser and legal counsel.  
Minister for Justice from 16 October 2000.

# The Government Offices Organisation in 2001



## SUMMARY OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET, SEK BILLIONS

Revenue	2000		2001	
	Budget	Outcome	Budget	Outcome
(Cash turnover preliminary)				
Income tax - personal	21.3	50.3	7.6	33.2
Income tax - corporate	68.6	71.7	76.4	94.1
Other tax on income	5.0	5.5	4.6	7.6
Social security contributions	219.5	225.9	232.6	238.8
Real estate tax	24.9	24.8	23.3	23.3
Other tax on property	11.9	13.5	15.1	16.5
Value added tax	175.1	182.9	190.8	184.8
Selective purchase tax, etc	83.8	82.6	89.9	86.7
Equalisation charges, municipal and county councils	18.4	19.2	19.2	20.9
Cash difference account	- 11.5	- 3.5	- 4.1	- 19.7
Central government activities	48.9	45.5	29.0	50.8
From sale of property	95.0	61.5	15.0	0.2
From loans repaid	2.7	2.5	2.5	2.6
Computed revenue	9.0	8.6	8.9	8.4
Contributions, etc, from the EU	9.6	9.0	10.6	8.5
<b>Total revenue</b>	<b>782.3</b>	<b>800.0</b>	<b>717.7</b>	<b>755.1</b>
<b>Revenue</b>	<b>782.3</b>	<b>800.0</b>	<b>717.7</b>	<b>755.1</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>	<b>708.9</b>	<b>698.1</b>	<b>676.6</b>	<b>716.4</b>
<b>Balance</b>	<b>73.4</b>	<b>101.9</b>	<b>40.5</b>	<b>38.7</b>

## SUMMARY OF CENTRAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET, SEK BILLIONS

**Expenditure** (The column heading 'Budget' refers to the sum of the central government budget and the supplementary budget)

<i>Expenditure areas</i>	2000		2001	
	Budget	Outcome	Budget	Outcome
1. Swedish political system	4.7	4.8	5.4	5.4
2. Economic and fiscal administration	1.6	1.5	2.1	2.1
3. Tax administration and collection	5.9	6.2	6.2	6.4
4. Justice	22.7	23.3	24.7	24.1
5. Foreign policy administration and international cooperation	2.8	3.0	3.0	3.0
6. Total defence	46.7	46.2	46.5	44.9
7. International development cooperation	13.2	15.3	14.8	17.0
8. Immigrants and refugees	4.9	4.5	5.6	5.3
9. Health care, medical care, social services	27.5	28.6	29.8	29.5
10. Financial security (illness and disability)	96.3	97.9	107.5	107.3
11. Financial security (old age)	33.6	33.5	33.8	33.8
12. Financial security (families and children)	44.8	44.6	47.7	48.3
13. Financial security (unemployment)	33.9	33.2	62.1	58.6
14. Labour market and working life	45.9	41.1	8.5	8.5
15. Study support	20.4	19.7	21.7	19.1
16. Education and university research	32.5	31.4	34.3	33.3
17. Culture, media, religious organisations and leisure	7.6	7.6	7.8	7.8
18. Community planning, housing supply and construction	14.6	11.9	11.5	10.4
19. Regional balance and development	3.5	3.0	4.2	3.3
20. General environment and nature conservation	1.7	1.7	2.2	2.2
21. Energy	19	1.7	2.3	2.0
22. Communications	25.7	25.3	24.9	24.6
23. Agriculture and forestry, fisheries, etc	9.7	9.7	17.2	16.6
24. The business sector	3.0	3.8	3.5	3.3
25. General grants to municipalities	98.3	97.5	101.2	100.6
26. Interest on central government debt	81.8	90.2	70.9	81.3
27. Contribution to the European Community	23.1	22.3	23.8	23.3
Take up of funds previously allocated	6.0	0.0	3.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure areas, total</b>	<b>714.3</b>	<b>709.6</b>	<b>726.3</b>	<b>722.0</b>
Adjustment to cash basis	- 45.0	- 35.4	- 45.7	- 34.4
National Debt Office lending	39.5	23.9	8.2	28.8
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>708.9</b>	<b>698.1</b>	<b>688.8</b>	<b>716.4</b>

## TABLE OF ITEMS

<i>Ministry</i>	<i>Government business</i>		<i>Government Bills</i>		<i>Statutes</i>		<i>Committee terms of reference</i>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Prime Minister's Office	26	50	1	1	4	6	1	3
Ministry of Justice	1,754	1,831	32	51	179	203	23	23
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	802	749	16	13	47	34	8	8
Ministry of Defence	672	539	5	7	60	35	16	14
Ministry of Health / Social	654	3,027	26	26	83	102	18	14
Ministry of Finance	637	577	41	28	129	110	13	13
Ministry of Education / Science	590	614	11	15	95	116	9	13
Ministry of Agriculture / Food / Fisheries	301	379	7	7	58	41	4	4
Ministry of Culture	484	418	4	4	40	35	19	6
Ministry of the Environment	1,121	904	11	15	77	78	23	43
Ministry of Industry / Employment / Communications	1,231	1,433	31	26	150	137	105	104
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,272</b>	<b>10,521</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>922</b>	<b>897</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>242</b>

Cabinet decisions on bills, statutes and terms of reference are included under registered business.

## TABLE OF ITEMS

<i>Ministry</i>	<i>Interpellations</i>		<i>Parliamentary replies</i>		<i>Registered business</i>	
	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Prime Minister's Office	6	3	13	5	10,766	11,563
Ministry of Justice	60	51	117	169	6,847	8,707
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	39	28	223	176	1,562	1,817
Ministry of Defence	6	3	54	47	2,875	2,986
Ministry of Health / Social	68	29	184	184	8,624	11,439
Ministry of Finance	58	36	154	132	4,721	4,720
Ministry of Education / Science	58	39	109	98	4,919	4,935
Ministry of Agriculture / Food / Fisheries	21	5	90	74	3,041	3,983
Ministry of Culture	14	10	76	53	4,244	2,987
Ministry of the Environment	24	9	100	78	4,901	5,349
Ministry of Industry / Employment / Communications	71	71	289	244	10,964	11,905
Office for Admin Affairs					1,711	1,770
<b>Total</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>1,469</b>	<b>1,259</b>	<b>65,175</b>	<b>72,161</b>

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES  
AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES

	2000	2001
Prime Minister's Office	57	57
Ministry of Justice	323	341
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	1,645	1,502
Ministry of Defence	120	136
Ministry of Health / Social Affairs	216	217
Ministry of Finance	419	416
Ministry of Education / Science	216	211
Ministry of Agriculture / Food / Fisheries	151	134
Ministry of Culture	160	93
Ministry of the Environment	204	175
Ministry of Industry / Employment / Communications	405	462
Office for Administrative Affairs	556	589
<b>Government Offices, Total</b>	<b>4,472</b>	<b>4,333</b>
<b>Calculated as annual equivs.</b>	<b>4,372</b>	<b>4,249</b>

No. of employees calculated as employees, incl. committees, in service for the whole or part of the month of December each year.

STAFF CATEGORIES  
AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES

		2000	2001
HEADS OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS	women	124	141
	men	338	325
	<i>sum</i>	462	466
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	women	1,085	1,102
	men	977	994
	<i>sum</i>	2,062	2,096
ADVISERS / SPECIALISTS	women	319	262
	men	327	282
	<i>sum</i>	646	544
POLITICAL APPOINTEES	women	80	74
	men	79	68
	<i>sum</i>	159	142
PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	women	907	872
	men	236	213
	<i>sum</i>	1,143	1,085
OTHERS	women	0	0
	men	3	0
	<i>sum</i>	3	0
<b>Government Offices, Total</b>		<b>4,472</b>	<b>4,333</b>
<i>women</i>		2,515	2,451
<i>men</i>		1,957	1,882

**Average pay / month**

PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	17,425	18,091
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	25,975	27,210
HEADS OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS	40,634	43,554
ADVISERS	31,028	32,268
POLITICAL APPOINTEES	31,480	32,556

*The political appointees category includes ministers, state secretaries and other politically appointed staff.*

*The permanent admin staff category refers to administrative officers, clerical officers and service staff, etc.*

The salaries of the Prime Minister and other ministers are not included in the figures on average pay.

## STAFF STRUCTURE AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES

	2000	2001
<b>Average age*</b>		
PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	43	45
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	41	42
HEADS OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS	52	52
ADVISERS	42	42
POLITICAL APPOINTEES	40	41
<b>Average length of service, years*</b>		
PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	12	13
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	8	9
HEADS OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS	17	17
ADVISERS	2	2
POLITICAL APPOINTEES	3	3
<b>University-trained staff in each category, per cent*</b>		
PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF	25	Note 2
EXECUTIVE OFFICERS	84	Note 2
HEADS OF ADMINISTRATIVE UNITS	95	Note 2
ADVISERS	93	Note 2
POLITICAL APPOINTEES	78	Note 2
<b>Education: staff with at least 3 yrs of university training*</b>		
LAW GRADUATES	876	Note 2
TRAINED ECONOMISTS	501	Note 2
SOCIAL SCIENCE GRADUATES	401	Note 2

Note 1: The information about staff categories refers to the situation in December each year.

Note 2: The Swedish SUN system is a standard used to classify individual programmes of education. A new version of SUN – SUN 2000 – has replaced the old classification system. Unfortunately, not all the new SUN codes have been updated, which means that the figures for 2001 are not totally reliable and for this reason they have not been presented here.

## RECRUITMENT AT THE GOVERNMENT OFFICES

	2000	2001
<b>Externally recruited staff</b>	588	451
of which from central govt activities	274	232
from municipal or county council authorities	36	36
from trade and industry	180	125
from the educational sector / higher education	60	48
<b>Officers transferred to other ministries</b>	239	193
<b>Staff departures to</b>		
other central government duties	98	236
municipal/county council authorities	13	19
trade and industry	103	142
others, incl. transfer to other ministries	166	343
retirement	20	34
<b>Absence (number of days)</b>		
sick leave	35,473	46,375
temporary parental leave	2,587	3,471
parental leave, men	1,247	1,622
parental leave, women	1,496	2,004

GOVERNMENT OFFICES EXPENDITURE (INCL. COMMITTEES), SEK THOUSANDS  
PER MINISTRY

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Prime Minister's Office	52,329	55,316
Ministry of Justice	211,525	257,012
Ministry for Foreign Affairs	1,891,036	2,279,417
Ministry of Defence	99,714	130,792
Ministry of Health/Social	185,279	179,957
Ministry of Finance	300,117	304,280
Ministry of Education / Science	123,738	134,197
Ministry of Agriculture / Food / Fisheries	122,968	137,607
Ministry of Culture	99,864	71,370
Ministry of the Environment	125,529	330,284
Ministry of Industry / Employment / Communications	284,217	126,271
Office for Administrative Affairs	431,333	435,386
Government Offices general	634,943	666.351
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,562,592</b>	<b>5,108,240</b>

Note: The item headed 'Government Offices general' refers to rents costs and certain other joint costs at the Government Offices.

Some of the differences between years is due to the fact that duties are transferred between ministries and administrative units and that certain costs pertaining to the preparations for the Swedish EU Presidency 2001 have been debited to the year 2000.

GOVERNMENT OFFICES EXPENDITURE (INCL. COMMITTEES), SEK  
PER COST CATEGORY

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>
Salaries, emoluments and other staff costs	2,578,073	2,835,999
Courses, training and conferences	54,483	184,372
Travel and allowances	281,493	326,457
Consultants and other external services, advertising	322,214	324,929
IT, incl. maintenance and software, data communications	65,158	65,889
Telephone and mobile phone costs, postage	105,758	118,403
Furniture and fittings and other equipment, repair of equipment	45,790	87,067
Office stationery and disposable materials, books, journals	66,854	55,824
Printing and copying, bookbinding	37,446	42,490
Security and surveillance	25,539	35,933
Premises in Sweden and abroad, cleaning and maintenance	1,003,068	1,011,240
Other costs, incl. interest and amortization payments	348,783	443,320
Revenue	– 372,067	– 423,683
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,562,592</b>	<b>5,108,240</b>



THIS YEARBOOK DESCRIBES the work of the Swedish Government Offices in 2001. The Government Offices make up a single, integral public authority and encompass the Prime Minister's Office, the various ministries and an administrative office providing general services.

The yearbook also contains statistical tables, details of Government decisions taken during the year, lists of bills, reports, committee findings and much else besides, as well as details of the Government Offices' staff and finances.

Sweden's presidency of the EU during the first half of 2001 has naturally left a strong imprint on the yearbook.

