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Survey of OSCE Field Operations

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Note

The purpose of the survey is to give an overview of the mandates and "technical data" relating to current OSCE Field Operations. It should also facilitate reference to official OSCE documents and decisions on the subject. It is designed for use by practitioners who are directly involved in the support of OSCE field activities, as well as by an interested public.

Direct quotations from official OSCE documents or other official documents related to the OSCE are in *italics*.

The Survey is available from the homepage of the OSCE at: http://www.osce.org.

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I. OSCE Field Operations

South-Eastern Europe

The OSCE Presence in Albania

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
108th Permanent Council, 27 March 1997, Decision No. 160

Adjustment of the Mandate:
107th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/158, 20 March 1997
108th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/160, 27 March 1997
143rd Permanent Council, PC.DEC/206, 11 December 1997
156th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/218, 11 March 1998

Update of Mandate of the Presence:
488th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/588, 18 December 2003

2. Tasks

On the basis of the reports by the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Dr. Franz Vranitzky, on his visits to Albania on 8 and 14 March 1997, and following the Decision No. 158 (107th Plenary Meeting of 20 March 1997), the Permanent Council in its Decision No. 160 (108th Plenary Meeting of 27 March 1997) decided to *establish an OSCE presence in Albania in co-operation with the Albanian authorities and to provide the co-ordinating framework within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence, in support of a coherent international strategy, and in facilitating improvements in the protection of human rights and basic elements of civil society.*

1. In co-operation with other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE will provide advice and assistance, in particular in the following fields:

- *Democratization, the media and human rights;*
- *Election preparation and monitoring.*

Furthermore, the OSCE will explore other possibilities, including monitoring the collection of weapons.
[...]

The overall co-ordination of the efforts of the international community will be ensured by Dr. Vranitzky as Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office. He will report to the Permanent Council on progress achieved.
[...]

2. The Permanent Council

- *Has taken note of the official appeal made by the Albanian authorities to a group of countries for assistance in resolving the security situation in Albania;*

- *Expects any assistance to be given in accordance with the United Nations Charter and OSCE principles and in accordance with appropriate action by the United Nations Security Council;*

- *Expects to be informed on any further steps to be taken in this context.*

In Decision No. 206 of 11 December 1997 the Permanent Council made the following adjustments to its Decision No. 160 of 27 March 1997:

The Permanent Council decides that:

- *In co-operation with other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE will provide advice and assistance, in particular in the field of democratization, media and human rights;*

- *The flexible co-ordination of the efforts of the international community will be ensured by the OSCE Presence in Albania acting as a clearing-house for information on the international efforts in Albania.*

Recalling Permanent Council Decisions Nos. 158, 160, 168, and 178, and taking into account the conclusions of the Rome and Brussels Conferences on Albania, the Permanent Council further decides:

- *To continue to provide a flexible co-ordinating framework in concert with the Albanian Government within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence, in support of a coherent international strategy;*

- *That there will be semi-annual reviews of the implementation of this mandate and of the work of the OSCE in Albania.*

In Decision No. 218, taken in a special session on the Kosovo crisis on 11 March 1998, the Permanent Council decided to temporarily enhance the monitoring capabilities of the OSCE Presence in Albania in order to allow for *adequate observation of the borders with Kosovo, FRY, and prevention of possible crisis spillover effects. The Head of Presence will report regularly on his observations.*

With the end of the Kosovo crisis in 1999, the border monitoring activities of the OSCE Presence were progressively downscaled and the border monitoring field stations were transformed into normal Field Stations.

In Decision No. 588 taken on 18 December 2003, the Permanent Council, recognizing the overall progress achieved in Albania in recent years, as well as the increased central position that the country's institutions have taken, decided to update the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania to reflect the developments which have taken place in the country.

Working in close consultation and co-operation with the Government of Albania, the OSCE Presence provides assistance and expertise in the following areas:

- Legislative and judicial reform, including property reform;
- Regional administrative reform;
- Electoral reform;
- Parliamentary capacity-building;
- Anti-trafficking and anti-corruption, including supporting the implementation of relevant national strategies;
- Development of effective laws and regulations on the independent media and its Code of Conduct;
- Promotion of good governance and targeted projects for strengthening of civil society;
- Police assistance, in particular training for border police, within a co-ordinated framework with other international actors in the field;

3. Deployment

The Presence started working in Tirana on 3 April 1997.

4. Duration

On 29 November 2012 the Permanent Council, adopted PC.DEC/1056 prolonging the Mission's mandate until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The total number of international posts is 21, with international staff at the Headquarters in Tirana and at four project offices in Gjirokaster, Kukes, Shkoder, and Vlora. The Mission also has 64 locally recruited posts thus totaling 85 altogether.

The Head of the Presence (since September 2010) is Ambassador Eugen Wollfarth of Germany.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Presence in Albania at EUR 3,040,600.

The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
5th Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Budapest, 8 December 1995 (MC(5).DEC/1)

Terms of Reference: ibid.

General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Proximity Peace Talks. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, November 1-21, 1995 (REF.PC/716/95/Rev.1)) (hereinafter: the Peace Agreement), Journal No. 93, Agenda item 6 (PC Decision no. 145)

2. Tasks

The tasks of the Mission are outlined in the Budapest Ministerial Council Decision MC (5). Dec/1, either directly or through reference to the Peace Agreement (see para 9 of that Decision: *Establish a Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina [...] to carry out its tasks as requested by the Parties to the Agreement*), in the OSCE Lisbon Summit Declaration, the Conclusions of the Paris Ministerial Steering Board Meeting, the London, Bonn and Madrid Peace Implementation Conferences as well as in the PC Decision No. 145. According to this Decision, they consist of the following elements:

- *taking into consideration the role of the High Representative as defined in the Peace Agreement and in the conclusions of the Paris Meeting as well as the need to co-operate with other international actors,* the Mission concentrated on providing *assistance for the preparation and conduct of municipal elections in 1997* and on providing *assistance in the establishment of a permanent election commission, in accordance with Annex 3 of the Peace Agreement, with respect to the elections scheduled to close the consolidation period.*

- *to assist in democracy building and be active in human rights promotion and monitoring, in particular in support of the Ombudspersons throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina;*

- *to continue assisting the Parties in implementation of regional stabilization measures;*

- *the Head of Mission will co-ordinate closely with the Chairperson-in-Office and report to the Permanent Council regularly, at least every two months.*

3. Deployment

The Head of Mission started to work in Sarajevo on 29 December 1995, relying initially on the infrastructure of the existing OSCE Mission in Sarajevo.

The Mission has its Head Office in Sarajevo, and it currently has thirteen Field Offices in the two entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the Mission has an additional office in the Brcko District.

The OSCE and its Mission co-operate closely with the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina/EUSR, Office of the High Representative, EUFOR, UNHCR, the Council of Europe and local NGOs among others.

4. Duration

After the Budapest Ministerial Council, the Mission mandate has been prolonged as follows:

- 93rd Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/145, 21 November 1996: until 31 December 1997;
- 143rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/,203, 11 December 1997: until 31 December 1998;
- 199th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/270, 19 November 1998: until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/319, 2 December 1999: until 31 December 2000;
- 310th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/381, 20 November 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/453, 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/517, 12 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/583, 18 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 535th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/639, 2 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/694, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/747, 23 November 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/818, 6 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC/DEC/866, 27 November 2008: until 31 December 2009;
- 785th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/918, 10 December 2009: until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/974, 16 December 2010: until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1020, 15 December 2011: until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1061, 29 November 2012: until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The Mission currently has 414.5 posts of which 68 are internationally and 346.5 locally recruited posts. The Head of Mission (since 20 August 2011) is Ambassador Fletcher M. Burton of the United States.

6. Financial implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 3 February 2013, PC.DEC/1028, established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina at EUR 13,081,200.

The OSCE Mission to Montenegro

1. Basic Decisions

The Mission was established by Permanent Council Decision No.732 of 29 June 2006.

2. Tasks

As stipulated in its mandate, the tasks of the Mission are to:

- assist and promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Montenegro with the OSCE, in all dimensions, including the politico-military, economic and environmental and human aspects of security and stability;
- Facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairperson-in-Office, OSCE institutions, and as appropriate, OSCE field operations - particularly with those in South-Eastern Europe, as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;
- Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation;

3. Deployment

The Mission has its headquarters in Podgorica.

4. Duration

The Mission's mandate was initially valid until 31 December 2006.

The mandate has been extended annually, and on 25 November 2012 the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1057 prolonging the Mission’s mandate until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

Ambassador L’ubomir Kopaj of Slovakia has been the Head of Mission since 1 December 2012. The Mission currently has 11 internationally and 32 locally recruited posts, thus numbering 43 altogether.

6. Financial implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro at EUR 2,243,900.

The OSCE Mission to Serbia

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
The Mission was established as the OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by Permanent Council Decision No. 401 of 11 January 2001. It was renamed to OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro by Permanent Council Decision No. 533 of 13 February 2003 and to the OSCE Mission to Serbia by Permanent Council Decision No. 733 of 29 June 2006.

2. Tasks

As stipulated in its mandate, the Mission, acting in close co-operation with the host Government, will provide assistance and expertise to the authorities at all levels, as well as to interested individuals, groups and organizations, in the fields of democratization and the protection of human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In this context, and in order to promote democratization, tolerance, the rule of law and conformity with OSCE principles, standards and commitments, the Mission will also:

- assist and advise on the full implementation of legislation in areas covered by the mandate;
- monitor the proper functioning and development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms;
- assist in the restructuring and training of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary;
- provide assistance and advice in the field of the media;
- in close co-operation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, provide advice and support in order to facilitate the return of refugees to and from neighbouring countries and from other countries of residence as well as of internally displaced persons to their homes within the territory of Serbia.

In carrying out its tasks, the Mission will co-operate with and use the expertise of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. The OSCE Secretariat's Conflict Prevention Centre will assist, *inter alia*, by organizing training workshops and seminars in the field of confidence- and security-building measures and other issues in the politico-military field.

The Mission will closely co-operate with the representation of the Council of Europe in Serbia in order to co-ordinate programmes and to efficiently plan joint projects. It will also co-ordinate with representatives of other international organizations and institutions in the host country, notably the European Commission, United Nations agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations consistent with the Platform for Co-operative Security.

3. Deployment

The Mission has its headquarters in Belgrade. It has an office in Bujanovac in southern Serbia, a training facility centre in Novi Pazar in south-western Serbia, and an Advanced Police Training Centre in Zemun, staffed by OSCE experts working out of Mission headquarters. The Mission ceased its on-site field support to Basic Police Training Centre in Sremska Kamenica at the end of 2011 and withdrew its staff from the Centre. On the day of the establishment of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the former Office in Podgorica was closed down.

4. Duration

The Mission's mandate has been extended annually and on 29 November 2012 the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1062 further prolonging its mandate until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

Ambassador Peter Burkhard of Switzerland has been the Head of Mission since 1 December 2012. The Mission currently has 30 internationally and 116.5 locally recruited posts, totalling 146.5.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Serbia at EUR 6,909,500.

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo[1]

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council Decision No. 305, 1 July 1999.

Terms of Reference:
Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998.
Permanent Council Decision No. 259, 15 October 1998.
NATO-FRY Agreement, 15 October 1998.
OSCE-FRY Agreement, 16 October 1998.
Permanent Council Decision No. 263, 25 October 1998. Interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations.
Permanent Council Decision No. 265, 5 November 1998.
Permanent Council Decision No. 266, 11 November 1998.
United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999;
UNSG Report, 12 June 1999 (S/1999/672);
Permanent Council Decision No. 305, 1 July 1999.
Exchange of Letters between Ambassador Kim Traavik, Head of OSCE Department, Norwegian Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bernard Miyet, USG UN Department for Peace-Keeping Operations (DPKO) 19 July 1999.

2. Tasks

Decision No. 305 of 1 July 1999 by the Permanent Council refers to the framework of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and to the report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 12 June 1999. It states that *the OSCE will contribute to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1244, in particular the relevant parts of operative paragraph 11 of this resolution.*

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMIK) was established effective from 1 July 1999. The OSCE Mission in Kosovo constitutes a distinct component, or 'pillar', within the overall framework of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo, within this overall framework, takes the lead role in matters relating to institution building and human rights. It co-operates closely with other relevant organizations - intergovernmental and, as appropriate, non-governmental - in the planning and implementation of its tasks.

Currently, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo carries out activities in the following main areas: human and community rights monitoring and promotion, support to democratic institutions and good governance, and public safety and security.

[1] All references to Kosovo institutions/leaders refer to the Provisional Institutions of Self Government.

3. Deployment

The present OSCE Mission in Kosovo was preceded by the OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) and the Task Force for Kosovo (cf. under Chapter V. Closed Missions). On 1 July 1999 the Task Force for Kosovo was dissolved and replaced by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMIK) by PC.DEC/305.

4. Duration

In its Decision No. 382, on 20 November 2000, the Permanent Council decided to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo for one year until 10 December 2001.

Subsequent prolongations were decided at

- 372nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/449, 10 December 2001:	until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/515, 12 December 2002:	until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/584, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/646, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/693, 17 November 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/765, 14 December 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- 694th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/835, 21 December 2007:	until 31 January 2008.

The mandate of OMIK has been extended on a monthly basis since 31 January 2008.

5. Composition

The Mission has the following departments: Head of Mission; Human Rights and Communities; Democratization; Security and Public Safety; Fund Administration.

The Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (since 1 October 2012) is Ambassador Jean-Claude Schlumberger of France. Ambassador Schlumberger also serves as Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations (D/SRSG).

The Mission Headquarters are located in Prishtinë/Priština; the Mission has created a network of five Regional Centres, in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Pejë/Peć, Prizren, Gjilan/Gnjilane and Prishtinë/Priština, and over 30 municipal teams that cover all municipalities throughout Kosovo. The total number of posts is currently 603.5 of which 166 are internationally and 437.5 locally recruited posts.

6. Financial implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo at EUR 20,512,800.

The OSCE Mission to Skopje

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
15th CSO Meeting, 14 August 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 1
16th CSO Meeting, 18 September 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 1
17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 3 "Articles of Understanding concerning the CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission", 7 November 1992

Modalities:
Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998 (PC.DEC/218)
Permanent Council Decision No. 405, 22 March 2001 (PC.DEC/405)
Permanent Council Decision No. 414, 7 June 2001 (PC.DEC/414)
Permanent Council Decision No. 437, 6 September 2001 (PC.DEC/437/Corr.1)
Permanent Council Decision No. 439, 28 September 2001 (PC.DEC/439)
Permanent Council Decision No. 457, 21 December 2001 (PC.DEC/457)
Permanent Council Decision No. 524, 19 December 2002 (PC.DEC/524)

The decision to establish a CSCE Monitoring Mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was taken in mid-1992 in the context of the efforts to extend the European Community Monitoring Mission (ECMM) to neighbouring countries of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to help avoid the spread of tension to their territories. A decision to explore with authorities in Skopje the possibility of dispatching similar missions under CSCE auspices was taken at the 15th Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) Meeting on 14 August 1992 (15-CSO/Journal No. 2, Annex 1).

The Steering Group on the Yugoslav Crisis worked out on 27 October 1992, the "Modalities and Financial Implications for the CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje" which were adopted by the open-ended *ad hoc* Group on 28 October 1992, and approved by the 17th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) on 6 November 1992 (17-CSO/Journal No. 2, Annex 3).

"Articles of Understanding Concerning CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission" were exchanged on 7 November 1992 by means of a letter from the Macedonian Minister of Foreign Relations, Mr. Denko Maleski, to the Chairperson-in-Office of the Council of Ministers of the CSCE.

The OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje was renamed to OSCE Mission to Skopje by Permanent Council Decision No. 977 of 16 December 2010.

2. Tasks

According to the Modalities and Financial Implications as approved at the 17th CSO Meeting, the objective of the Mission is *to monitor developments along the borders of the Host Country with Serbia and in other areas of the Host Country which may suffer from spillover of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, in order to promote respect for territorial integrity and the maintenance of peace, stability and security; and to help prevent possible conflict in the region*.

The above objective is specified in a mandate consisting of the following tasks:

- *continue dialogue with the Governmental Authorities of the Host Party*;
- *establish contacts with representatives of political parties and other organizations, and with ordinary citizens*;
- *conduct trips to assess the level of stability and the possibility of conflict and unrest*;
- *engage in other activities compatible with the CSCE goals of the Mission as defined above*;
- *maintain a high profile in the country*;
- *in case of incidents, assist in establishing the facts*.

The Permanent Council, in a special session on the Kosovo crisis on 11 March 1998, decided (PC.DEL/218) to temporarily enhance the monitoring capabilities of the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje in order to allow for *adequate observation of the borders with Kosovo, FRY, and prevention of possible crisis spillover effects. The Head of Mission will report regularly on his observations.*

On 22 March 2001, the Permanent Council, noting the reports of the Mission indicating an upsurge of violent actions by ethnic Albanian armed groups in the area of the northern border regions in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, decided to increase the size of the Mission by eight international personnel for a period of six months. "*The additional staff members will work particularly in the border area, with a view to strengthening the capabilities of the Mission to monitor developments along the border and report, and perform other duties in accordance with the Mission's mandate.*"

On 7 June 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the size of the Mission by ten international personnel (totaling 26).

On 6 September 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the size of the Mission by 25 international personnel (totaling 51). *"They will monitor and report regularly on the security situation in the host State, including: the situation in the northern border areas including illicit arms trafficking; the humanitarian situation, including the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and trafficking in human beings; the situation in sensitive places with communities not in the majority; and cases of incidents and recurrence of hostilities. They will not monitor the arms collection process or conduct operations aimed exclusively at observing compliance with the ceasefire."*

On 28 September 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the personnel of the Mission on the basis of the existing mandate, by 72 international confidence-building monitors and 60 police advisers and 17 police trainers; as well as 10 international to deal with administrative and support matters:

"The monitors will contribute to the maintenance of stability and security in the country and to the building of general confidence amongst the population. They will report regularly on the security situation, including: the situation in the northern border areas including illicit arms trafficking; the humanitarian situation, including the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and trafficking in human beings; the situation in sensitive areas; and on cases of incidents and recurrence of hostilities."

The police advisers were deployed to the sensitive areas, concurrently with the phased redeployment of the national police. *"They will have no executive authority and are not to be seen as replacement for the national police or other lawful security forces in the host country. Their role would be to assist in ensuring a phased and co-ordinated redeployment by the national police. The police trainers will assist in the implementation of the Police Academy project."*

In addition to police matters and confidence-building activities, the Mission has been particularly active in media issues, decentralization and support to the Ombudsman Institution.

3. Deployment

The CSCE Spillover Monitoring Mission to Skopje started its work with an OSCE fact-finding visit to Skopje on 10-14 September 1992.

4. Duration

According to the Modalities, the initial period of operation was *at least six months*. Subsequent prolongations of the Modalities were decided at:

- 9th CSO Vienna Group Meeting, 1 April 1993:	until 18 September 1993;
- 34th CSO Vienna Group Meeting, 28 October 1993:	until 18 March 1994;
- 12th Permanent Committee Meeting, 17 March 1994:	until 30 September 1994;
- 34th Permanent Committee Meeting, 22 September 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 26th Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/52, 22 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 51st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/96, 14 December 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 76th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/130, 27 June 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 93rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/144, 21 November 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 120th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/173, 19 June 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 142nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/202, 4 December 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 174th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/237, 25 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 200th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/272, 26 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 236th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/302, 24 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/322, 2 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;
- 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/359, 15 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 314th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/395, 14 December 2000:	until 30 June 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/457, 21 December 2001:	until 30 June 2002;
- 396th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/480, 6 June 2002:	until 31 December 2002;
- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/524, 19 December 2002:	until 30 June 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/582, 18 December 2003:	until 30 June 2004;
- 511th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/612, 18 June 2004:	until 31 December 2004;

- 535th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/640, 2 December 2004: until 30 June 2005;
- 559th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/682, 16 June 2005: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/697, 17 November 2005: until 30 June 2006;
- 614th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/727, 22 June 2006: until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/764, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/822, 6 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/869, 27 November 2008: until 31 December 2009;
- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/907, 24 November 2009: until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/977, 16 December 2010: until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1023, 15 December 2011: until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1058, 29 November 2012: until 31 December 2013.

The Articles of Understanding remain in force until notification of termination by either Party, 15 days in advance.

5. Composition

According to the Modalities and Financial Implications, the authorized strength of the Mission is 8 members, *to be supplemented as required*.

In a Statement of 27 June 1996 annexed to the Permanent Council Decision No. 130, the Chairperson said it *should be possible to maintain the Mission's strength at its present level, namely four members.*

Following the Permanent Council Decision on 11 March 1998 to enhance the monitoring capabilities on the border with Kosovo/Serbia and Montenegro, the number of staff members at the Mission was temporarily increased to full strength, 8 members.

Following the Permanent Council Decision of 22 March 2001 and throughout 2001, the Mission was gradually increased to a total of 16, 26 and 51 international staff. On 28 September 2001, the size of the Mission was increased by 72 confidence-building monitors, 60 police advisers, 17 police trainers and 10 administrative staff, totaling 210 internationals.

The strength of the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje was later increased to approximately 300 international staff at the beginning of 2002 to cover its three main areas of activity: monitoring; police training and development; and other political activities related to the implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement.

The number of internationals decreased progressively since then to reach 190 at the beginning of 2003, 104 by 2005 and 92 international staff members in 2006.

Currently, the OSCE Mission to Skopje has a total of 159 posts, of which 49 are internationally and 110 locally recruited.

The Head of Mission is Ambassador Ralf Breth of Germany (commenced duties in May 2011).

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Skopje at EUR 6,564,300.

Eastern Europe

The OSCE Mission to Moldova

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993, Journal No. 3, Annex 3

Terms of Reference:
7th Meeting of the CSO Vienna Group, 11 March 1993, Annex 1[2]
21st CSO Meeting, 28 April 1993, Journal No.3 (Corrected reissue), Decision 5(k)
Permanent Council Decision No. 329, 9 December 1999 (PC.DEC/329)

2. Tasks

According to the CSO Decision from 4 February 1993, the objective of the Mission is *to facilitate the achievement of a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in all its aspects* [...], based on the *consolidation of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova within its current borders and reinforcement of the territorial integrity of the State along with an understanding about a special status for the Trans-Dniester region*.

The mandate, as described in the Terms of Reference, consists of the following points:

- *facilitate the establishment of a comprehensive political framework for dialogue and negotiations and assist the parties to the conflict in pursuing negotiations on a lasting political settlement of the conflict, consolidating the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova along with an understanding about a special status for the Trans-Dniester region*;

- *gather and provide information on the situation, including the military situation, in the region, investigate specific incidents and assess their political implications*;

- *encourage the participating States concerned in pursuing negotiations on an agreement on the status and the early, orderly and complete withdrawal of foreign troops*;

- *provide advice and expertise, as well as a framework for other contributions, on such parts of a political settlement as effective observance of international obligations and commitments regarding human and minority rights, democratic transformation, repatriation of refugees, definition of a special status of the Trans-Dniester region*;

- *initiate a visible CSCE presence in the region and establish contacts with all parties to the conflict, local authorities and local populations*.

[2] Approved by the CSO Vienna Group on a preliminary basis only. The CSO gave final approval of the terms of reference at its 21st meeting on 28 April 1993 (decision k).

At the 261st Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council on 9 December 1999, the scope of the mandate was expanded in accordance with paragraph 19 of the Istanbul Summit Declaration, "in terms of ensuring transparency of the removal and destruction of Russian ammunition and armaments and co-ordination of financial and technical assistance offered to facilitate withdrawal and destruction". In this regard, a fund for voluntary financial assistance was established in the OSCE Secretariat.

3. Deployment

The Mission started to work in Chisinau on 25 April 1993; the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Moldova was signed on 7 May. The MoU was amended on 28 March 1996.

An Understanding on the Activity of the CSCE Mission in the Pridnestrovian Region of the Republic of Moldova came into force on 25 August 1993 through an exchange of letters between the Head of Mission and the "President of the Pridnestrovian Moldovan Republic".

The Mission opened a branch office in Tiraspol on 13 February 1995.

4. Duration

According to the MoU, the Mission was established for an initial period of six months from the date of signature. Subsequent extensions were decided at:

- 28th CSO Vienna Group Meeting, 9 September 1993:	until 24 April 1994;
- 15th Permanent Committee Meeting, 14 April 1994[3]:	until 31 December 1994;
- 41st Permanent Committee Meeting, 14 November 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 27th Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/54, 29 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 44th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/85, 9 November 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 70th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/121, 23 May, 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 91st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/140, 7 November 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 117th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/167, 29 May 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 142nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/200, 4 December 1997:	until 30 June 1998**;**
- 173rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/236, 17 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 198th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/268, 13 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/300, 17 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/329, 9 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;
- 285th PC Meeting, PC:DEL/352, 1 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/387, 7 December 2000:	until 30 June 2001;
- 345th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/423, 28 June 2001:	until 31 December 2001**;**
- 374th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/458, 21 December 2001:	until 30 June 2002;
- 399th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/483, 27 June 2002:	until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/521, 12 December 2002:	until 30 June 2003;
- 457th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/548, 20 June 2003:	until 31 December 2003;
- 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/576, 11 December 2003:	until 30 June 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/651 of 16 December 2004:	until 30 June 2005;
- 559th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/681 of 16 June 2005:	until 31 December 2005;

[3] Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 19 April 1994, at 12 noon, without any objection.

- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/698 of 17 November 2005:	until 30 June 2006;
- 614th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/728 of 22 June 2006:	until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/763 of 14 December 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/832 of 21 December 2007:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/875 of 27 November 2008:	until 31 December 2009;
- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/909 of 24 November 2009:	until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/970 of 16 December 2010:	until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1016 of 15 December 2011:	until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1054 of 29 November 2012:	until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

According to the 1993 Terms of Reference, the authorized strength of the Mission is 8 international staff members. Subsequent decisions of the Permanent Council brought the authorised strength of the Mission to currently 52 posts of which 13 are internationals and 39 locally recruited.

The Head of Mission (since April 2012) is Ambassador Jennifer Brush of the United States.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Moldova at EUR 2,125,200.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council Decision No. 295, 1 June 1999, PC Journal No.231 (PC.DEC/295)

2. Tasks

According to PC Decision No.295 of 1 June 1999 and following the closure of the OSCE Mission to Ukraine, an OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine was established for the purpose of carrying out tasks related to the new form of co-operation between Ukraine and the OSCE. According to PC Decision No.295, *this co-operation will be based on the planning, implementation and monitoring of projects between relevant authorities of Ukraine and the OSCE and its institutions. Such projects may cover all aspects of OSCE activities and may involve governmental as well as non-governmental bodies of Ukraine.*

3. Deployment

A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Ukrainian Government and the OSCE on 13 July 1999.

4. Duration

The Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine was established from 1 June 1999 for an initial duration until 31 December 1999 with the possibility of prolongations for periods of six months. Prolongations were decided at:

- 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/330, 9 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;
- 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/356, 15 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 314th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/394, 14 December 2000:	until 30 June 2001;
- 342nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/417, 21 June 2001:	until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/460, 21 December 2001:	until 30 June 2002;
- 400th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/484, 28 June 2002:	until 31 December 2002;
- 428th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/525, 20 December 2002:	until 30 June 2003;
- 457th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/549, 20 June 2003:	until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/581, 18 December 2003:	until 30 June 2004;
- 512th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/615, 29 June 2004:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/653, 16 December 2004	until 30 June 2005;
- 559th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/680, 16 June 2005:	until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/699, 17 November 2005:	until 30 June 2006;
- 614th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/729, 22 June 2006:	until 31 December 2006;
- 673rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/800, 5 July 2007:	until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/833, 21 December 2007:	until 30 June 2008;
- 717th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/853, 19 June 2008:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/876, 27 November 2008:	until 30 June 2009;
- 766th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/895, 25 June 2009:	until 31 December 2009;

- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/908, 24 November 2009:	until 30 June 2010;
- 818th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/941, 24 June 2010:	until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/972, 16 December 2010:	until 31 June 2011;
- 870th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1000, 23 June 2011:	until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1018, 15 December 2011:	until 30 June 2012;
- 918th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1042, 21 June 2012:	until 31 December 2012;
- 935th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1066, 13 December 2012:	until 30 June 2013.

5. Composition

In accordance with the MoU, the Co-ordinator's staff is composed of a core of internationally and locally hired staff as well as internationally or locally hired experts and technical staff required for the implementation of the projects. The size of the Co-ordinator's expert staff may be changed as required by the projects. The total number of posts is currently 44 of which 3 are internationals and 41 locals.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine (since June 2012) is Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova of Kazakhstan.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine at EUR 2,826,000.

South Caucasus

The OSCE Office in Baku

1. Basic Decision

Establishment:
258th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 16 November 1999, (PC.DEC/318).

2. Tasks

In accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council referred to above, the mandate of the Office includes the following elements:

- *Promote the implementation of the OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Azerbaijan within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions, including the human, political, economic and environmental aspects of security and stability.*
- *Facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and other OSCE institutions as well as co-operation with international organisations and institutions.*
- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation.*
- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OSCE.*

3. Deployment

The Office initiated its official activities on 18 July 2000 following the ratification by the Parliament of Azerbaijan of the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the Republic of Azerbaijan.

4. Duration

The Office's original mandate lasted until 31 December 2000. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/392, 7 December 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/452, 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/519, 12 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 489th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/574, 11 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/652, 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/701, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/752, 23 November 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/817, 6 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;

- 745th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/878, 18 December 2008: until 31 December 2009;
- 785th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/915, 10 December 2009: until 31 December 2010;
- 845th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/982, 23 December 2010: until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1012, 15 December 2011: until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1055, 29 November 2012: until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The Office has currently 11 internationally recruited posts, including the Head of Office, and 29 nationally recruited posts, thus numbering altogether 40 posts.

The Head of Office is currently Ambassador Koray Targay of Turkey (commenced duties on 15 August 2011).

6. Financial implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Office in Baku at EUR 2,829,900.

The OSCE Office in Yerevan

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council Decision No. 314, 22 July 1999 (PC.DEC/314).

2. Tasks

In accordance with the decision of the OSCE Permanent Council referred to above, the Office will perform the following tasks:

- *Promote the implementation of the OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Armenia within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions, including the human, political, economic and environmental aspects of security and stability;*

- *Facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and other OSCE institutions as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*

- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation;*

- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Armenia and the OSCE.*

3. Deployment

The Office initiated its official activities on 16 February 2000 following the ratification by the Armenian National Assembly of the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the Republic of Armenia.

4. Duration

The Office's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1999. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/324, 2 December 1999: until 31 December 2000;
- 313rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/388, 7 December 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/461, 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/520, 12 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/573, 11 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 535th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/641, 2 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 582nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/711, 1 December 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/767, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/834, 21 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;

- 745th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/879, 18 December 2008; until 31 December 2009;
- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/904, 24 November 2009; until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/968, 16 December 2010; until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1013, 15 December 2011; until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1060, 29 November 2012; until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The Office initially started with six international staff members, including the Head of Office, with an extra international staff member added in 2003. There are 7 internationally and 40 locally recruited posts.

The Head of Office (since 10 January 2012) is Ambassador Andrey Sorokin of the Russian Federation.

6. Financial implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Office in Yerevan at EUR 2,791,400.

The Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference

1. Basic decisions

The Chairperson-in-Office appointed as of 10 August 1995 a Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. The present Personal Representative (PR), Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk of Poland was appointed by the Chairperson-in-Office on 1 January 1997.

2. Tasks

The Personal Representative's mandate from the Chairperson-in-Office is to:

- *represent the OSCE Chairman-in-Office in issues related to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, assist the CiO in achieving an agreement on the cessation of the armed conflict and in creating conditions for the deployment of an OSCE peace-keeping operation, in order to facilitate a lasting comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in all its aspects;*

- *report on all aspects of his activities to the CiO of the OSCE, report through the CiO to the Co-Chairmanship of the OSCE Minsk Conference and, as appropriate, to the Minsk Group, and receive instructions from the CiO;*

- *assist the Co-Chairmanship at its request;*

- *assist the High Level Planning Group in planning an OSCE peace-keeping operation in accordance with the Budapest Summit Decisions;*

- *assist the parties in implementing and developing confidence-building, humanitarian and other measures facilitating the peace process, in particular by encouraging direct contacts;*

- *co-operate, as appropriate, with representatives of the United Nations and other international organizations operating in the area of conflict.*

3. Deployment

According to the Memorandum of Understanding signed with the Government of Georgia, the PR established a separate office in Tbilisi as a basis and headquarters. In order to be able to conduct the operational activities defined in the mandate, the Field Assistants of the PR are present in Baku, Yerevan and Stepanakert/Khankendi.

4. Duration

No limitations as to the duration of the Personal Representative's mandate have been set.

5. Composition

In addition to the Personal Representative, there are 5 internationally recruited and 12 locally recruited posts; for a total number of 18 posts.

In fulfilling the mandate, the Personal Representative and his Field Assistants should be given all necessary assistance to ensure that they have free access and movement in all areas relevant to carrying out their functions.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the Personal Representative at EUR 1,167,000.

Central Asia

The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council, 23 July 1998, Journal No. 179, Agenda item 4 (PC.DEC/244)

2. Tasks

In its Decision of 23 July 1998 the Permanent Council, recalling its Decision No. 231 of 11 June 1998 and welcoming the willingness of the Government of Turkmenistan to intensify OSCE activities in that country, decided that the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat will perform the following tasks:

- *Given the OSCE role as primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of Turkmenistan within the OSCE framework, with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability;*

- *Facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, other OSCE institutions and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*

- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs;*

- *Assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations, as well as other events with OSCE participation;*

- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between Turkmenistan and the OSCE.*

3. Deployment

The Centre started working in Ashgabat in January 1999.

4. Duration

The Centre's mandate is open-ended.

5. Composition

The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat has six international posts, and 19 national posts.

The Head of Centre (since July 2012) is Ambassador Ivo Petrov from Bulgaria.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat at EUR 1,511,700.

The OSCE Centre in Astana

1. Basic decisions

Establishment: PC.DEC/243, 23 July 1998.
Revision of Mandate: PC.DEC/797, 21 June 2007.

2. Tasks

In its 671st Plenary Meeting on 21 June 2007, the Permanent Council decided to revise the mandate and to rename the OSCE Centre in Almaty to 'the OSCE Centre in Astana' in PC.DEC/797. The mandate entrusted the Centre in Astana with the following tasks:

- *Promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as co-operation of Kazakhstan in all three OSCE dimensions within the OSCE framework approach to co-operative security and in the regional context;*

- *Facilitate contacts and promote information exchange between the authorities of Kazakhstan and the Chairman-in-Office and OSCE executive structures and institutions, as well as co-operation with international organizations;*

- *Establish and maintain contacts with central and local authorities, universities and research institutes of the host country, as well as representatives of civil society and NGOs;*

- *Assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations, as well as other events with OSCE participation;*

- *Provide assistance to the Government of Kazakhstan, such as — raising awareness on OSCE activities, training of designated Kazakh officials, and providing advice on the OSCE to relevant official structures, facilitate information exchange between OSCE institutions and relevant state agencies on OSCE activities;*

- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office, Secretary General or OSCE institutions and agreed between Kazakhstan and the OSCE;*

The PC decision requested that the Permanent Council will hold regular reviews of the implementation of this mandate and the activities of the Centre. The PC decision was adopted with a view to facilitating the implementation of the Ministerial Council decision NO. 20/06 in support of Kazakhstan's 2010 OSCE Chairmanship.

3. Deployment

The Centre started working in Almaty in January 1999. A small liaison office was set up in Astana in March 2003. In the first half of 2007 the Centre was relocated to Astana with a liaison office in Almaty.

4. Duration

The Centre's mandate was initially open-ended. In 2001, it was decided to change it into a yearly-renewable mandate. Through the Permanent Council Decision No. 462, adopted at its 375th Plenary Meeting on 21 December 2001, the mandate of the Centre was extended for one year until 31 December 2002 and extended in the following years.

Prolongations were decided at:

- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/518, 12 December 2002:	until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/579, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/647, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/702, 17 November 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 643rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/771, 21 December 2006:	until 30 June 2007;
- 671st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/797, 21 June 2007:	until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/815, 6 December 2007:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/870, 27 November 2008:	until 31 December 2009;
- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/906, 24 November 2009:	until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/969 of 16 December 2010:	until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1014, 15 December 2011:	until 31 December 2012;
- 936th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1069, 20 December 2012:	until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The OSCE Centre in Astana is led by a Head of Centre supported by a Deputy Head of the Centre and a team of three international experts covering all the three OSCE dimensions. Since 2007 the Centre has a contracted international Chief of Fund Administration. The total number of posts is 28 of which 6 are international and 22 are local.

The Head of the OSCE Centre in Astana (since January 2012) is Ambassador Natalia Zarudna of Ukraine.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Centre in Astana at EUR 2,148,400.

The OSCE Centre in Bishkek

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: PC.DEC/245, 23 July 1998
Additions: PC.DEC/339, 10 February 2000, PC.DEC/947, 22 July 2010 and PC.DEC/961, 18 November 2010.

2. Tasks

In its Decision of 23 July 1998 the Permanent Council, recalling its Decision No. 231 of 11 June 1998 and welcoming the willingness of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to intensify OSCE activities in that country, decided that the OSCE Centre in Bishkek will perform the following tasks:

- *Given the OSCE role as primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Kyrgyz Republic within the OSCE framework, with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability;*

- *Facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, other OSCE institutions and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*

- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs;*

- *Assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations, as well as other events with OSCE participation;*

- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE.*

In its decision of 10 February 2000 the Permanent Council established the OSCE Field Office in Osh.

In 2002, upon the request of the Kyrgyz Republic, an OSCE Academy was created in Bishkek. The Academy is a regional centre of postgraduate education and a forum for regional security dialogue and research. The Academy offers two Master programmes: one in Politics and Security and the other in Economic Governance and Development.

Following the June 2010 unrest in the southern provinces of Osh and Jalal-Abad, the government of Kyrgyzstan requested the OSCE's support to help the Kyrgyzstani police working in a multi-ethnic environment in protecting human rights and improving community-police relations. This request led to the establishment of the Community Security Initiative in November 2010.

3. Deployment

The Centre became operational in Bishkek in January 1999. The Field Office started working in Osh in April 2000.

An advance team of three persons under the Police Advisory Group (which subsequently became the Community Security Initiative) deployed to Kyrgyzstan on 24 August 2010. Police advisors and other Community Security Initiative staff continued to deploy in small groups throughout 2012, reaching 26 during the course of 2013.

4. Duration

The Centre's mandate was initially open-ended. In 2003, the Permanent Council decided to change it into a yearly renewable mandate.

Prolongations were decided on:

- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/587, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/648, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
- 582nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/707, 1 December 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/753, 23 November 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/820, 6 December 2007:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/871, 27 November 2008:	until 31 December 2009;
- 785th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/916, 10 December 2009:	until 31 December 2010;
- 845th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/984, 23 December 2010:	until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1015, 15 December 2011:	until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1059, 29 November 2012:	until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The OSCE Centre in Bishkek is led by a Head of Centre assisted by a Deputy Head. The position of a contracted Chief of Fund Administration was established in 2007. The total number of posts is 117, of which 26 are international, and 91 local. The agreed upon strength of the Community Security Initiative is 31 posts.

The Head of Centre (who began his duties on 14 October 2012) is Ambassador Sergey Kapinos of the Russian Federation.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek at EUR 6,810,400.

The OSCE Office in Tajikistan

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
The OSCE Office in Tajikistan was established by Permanent Council decision 852, on 19 June 2008, replacing the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe.

2. Tasks

At its 717th Plenary Meeting on 19 June 2008, the Permanent Council, through Decision 852, changed the mandate and the name of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe to the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. The current mandate includes the following tasks:

- *To promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Tajikistan within the OSCE framework, with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability;*

- *To assist the Republic of Tajikistan in the development of common approaches to problems and threats to security, taking into account the commitments of the Republic of Tajikistan to contribute to stability and security, to prevent conflicts and take measures for crisis management, as well as in the areas of, inter alia, police-related activities, border management and security and anti-trafficking;*

- *To support the efforts of the Republic of Tajikistan to fully develop the economic and environmental dimension and implement commitments stipulated in the Helsinki Final Act and other documents of the Organization, inter alia in the fields of free trade, the improvement of business contacts and possibilities, the development of energy and transport, investments, scientific and technical exchanges, the protection of the environment and good governance with a special emphasis on the regional context;*

- *To assist the Republic of Tajikistan in the human dimension to fully implement its commitments, inter alia, promoting ways and means for the OSCE to assist in the development of a legal framework and democratic political institutions and processes including the respect for human rights;*

- *To facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and OSCE bodies;*

- *To co-operate with local authorities, institutions, and international organizations and NGOs;*

- *To liaise and co-operate closely with the other OSCE field operations in the region in order to maintain coherence of the regional approach of the OSCE;*

- *To continue efforts in building national capacity and expertise within its area of responsibility in order to facilitate an efficient transfer of tasks to the Republic of Tajikistan;*

3. Deployment

The OSCE Mission to Tajikistan was established in June 1994. In October 2002, the Mission was changed into the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe. On 1 July 2008 the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe became the OSCE Office in Tajikistan. The Office consists of a Headquarters in Dushanbe and 5 Field Offices in Khujand, Kurgan-Tyube, Garm, Kulyab and Shaartuz.

4. Duration

On 13 December 2012 the Permanent Council decided to extend the mandate until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The post of Head of the Office in Tajikistan is currently vacant. The total number of international posts is currently 28 with 132 local posts.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan at EUR 6,718,200.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was established by Permanent Council Decision No. 734 of 30 June 2006.

2. Tasks

In its Decision of 30 June 2006 the Permanent Council recalled its Decisions Nos. 397 of 14 December 2000 and 714 of 22 December 2005; took into account the work carried out since the establishment of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia in 1995, and subsequently the OSCE Centre in Tashkent in 2000, and welcomed the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to further improve links with the OSCE.

The Permanent Council decided:

- *With a view to the further development and consolidation of project activities of the OSCE in Uzbekistan, to establish as a new form of co-operation between the OSCE and the Republic of Uzbekistan, starting 1 July 2006, an OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, for the period until 31 December 2006 with the possibility of subsequent extensions for one year periods;*

- *To determine for the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan the following tasks:*
  - *To assist the Government of Uzbekistan in its efforts to ensure security and stability, including fighting against terrorism, violent extremism, illegal drug trafficking and other transnational threats and challenges;*
  - *To support the efforts of the Government of Uzbekistan with regard to further socio-economic development and the protection of the environment in the Republic of Uzbekistan;*
  - *To assist the Government of Uzbekistan in the implementation of OSCE principles and of its commitments taken within the OSCE framework, including those related to the development of civil society, as well as in the development of co-operation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the OSCE*

3. Deployment

The OSCE Central Asia Liaison Office (CALO) started working in Tashkent in June 1995. A Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the Establishment of the OSCE Central Asian Liaison Office in Tashkent was signed on 12 July 1995 in Tashkent.

According to PC Decision No. 397 of 14 December 2000, the formal basis for the operation of the Centre in Tashkent would, *mutatis mutandis*, be the Memorandum of Understanding of 12 July 1995 between the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the PC Decisions referred to above. The premises and assets of the CALO were carried over to the Centre in Tashkent. After the establishment of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan on 1 July 2006, a new Memorandum of Understanding was subsequently agreed upon between the Secretary General of the OSCE and Uzbekistan.

4. Duration

On 30 June 2006 the Permanent Council decided to establish the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan with a mandate to operate until 31 December 2006 with the possibility of subsequent extensions for one year periods.

Prolongations were decided on:

- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/768, 14 December 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/823, 6 December 2007:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/873, 27 November 2008:	until 31 December 2009;
- 786th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/919, 17 December 2009:	until 31 December 2010;
- 845th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/983, 23 December 2010:	until 31 December 2011;
- 896th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1029, 28 December 2011:	until 31 December 2012;
- 936th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1070, 20 December 2012:	until 31 December 2013.

5. Composition

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan is currently Ambassador György Szabó of Hungary, who took up his duties in February 2012. The Project Co-ordinator is allocated 2 international posts and 18 local posts.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan at EUR 1,979,100.

ANNEX I - Other OSCE Field Related Activities

OSCE Activities regarding the Conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference

Minsk Process

1. Basic Documents

The Helsinki Additional Meeting of the CSCE Council on 24 March 1992 requested the CiO to convene as soon as possible a conference on Nagorno-Karabakh under the auspices of the CSCE to provide an ongoing forum for negotiations towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis on the basis of the principles, commitments and provisions of the CSCE. The Conference is to take place in Minsk. Although it has not to this date been possible to hold the conference, the so-called Minsk Group spearheads the OSCE's effort to find a political solution to this conflict.

On 6 of December 1994 the Budapest Summit decided to establish a co-chairmanship for the process. Furthermore the Heads of State or Government expressed their political will to deploy multinational peacekeeping forces as an essential part of the overall settlement of the conflict.

Implementing the Budapest decision, the Chairperson-in-Office issued on 23 March 1995 the mandate for the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Process (DOC. 525/95).

2. Tasks

On the basis of the above-mentioned documents the main objectives of the Minsk Process could be summarized as follows:

- *Providing an appropriate frame-work for conflict resolution in the way of assuring the negotiation process supported by the Minsk Group;*
- *Obtaining conclusion by the Parties of an agreement on the cessation of the armed conflict in order to permit the convening of the Minsk Conference;*
- *Promoting the peace process by deploying OSCE multinational peacekeeping forces.*

3. Deployment

The Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group (see composition) visit the region to conduct talks with the Parties to the Conflict. They also hold meetings with the Chairperson-in-Office and the members of the Minsk Group to brief them on the process.

4. Duration

The Minsk Process can be considered to be successfully concluded if the objectives referred to above are fully met.

5. Composition

The Minsk Process is supported by the Minsk Group that is headed by the Co-Chairs consisting of France, the Russian Federation and the United States. Furthermore, the permanent members of the Minsk Group include the following participating States: Belarus, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Finland, Turkey as well as Armenia and Azerbaijan and on a rotating basis the OSCE Troika.

The Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group are: Ambassador Jacques Faure of France, Ambassador Igor Popov of the Russian Federation and Ambassador Ian Kelly (acting) of the United States.

The Minsk Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh would be attended by the same participating States that are members of the Minsk Group. The Conference will be headed by the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Conference.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the Minsk Process at EUR 927,500.

High-Level Planning Group

1. Basic Decisions

The High-Level Planning Group (HLPG) was established in accordance with the Decisions of the Budapest Summit of Heads of State or Government of the participating States of the CSCE 1994, with the aim of intensifying action in relation to the conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference ("Nagorno-Karabakh conflict"). It superseded an earlier Initial Operation Planning Group (IOPG), which was established in May 1993.

2. Tasks

In accordance with its mandate, adopted by the Chairperson-in-Office on 23 March 1995, the HLPG is tasked:

- *to make recommendations for the Chairman-in-Office on developing as soon as possible a plan for the establishment, force structure requirements and operation of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping force;*

- *to make recommendations on, inter alia, the size and characteristics of the force, command and control, logistics, allocation of units and resources, rules of engagement and arrangements with contributing States.*

These tasks have been supplemented by Directives of the successive CiO.

3. Deployment

The HLPG is located in Vienna.

4. Duration

No limitations as to the duration of the HLPG's mandate have been set.

5. Composition

The HLPG is currently composed of 8 posts, which are occupied by military staff, seconded by OSCE participating States, as well as one locally recruited post. Thus, there are 9 posts in total. Col. Pavlo Shamaiev of Ukraine is currently the Head of the HLPG.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the High-Level Planning Group at EUR 245,100.

OSCE Assistance in Implementation of Bilateral Agreements

The OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

1. Basic decisions

On 30 April 1994 Latvia and Russia signed an Agreement *on the Social Welfare of Retired Military Personnel of the Russian Federation and their Family Members Residing on the Territory of the Republic of Latvia*.

Article 2 of the above Agreement stipulates that *questions relating to the application of its provisions, including the stipulated rights of persons to whom the agreement applies, may be submitted by either Party for joint consideration by authorized representatives appointed for this purpose by the Latvian Party and the Russian Party, as well as by the representative or representatives of the CSCE*.

At the 27th CSO Meeting on 15 June 1994, participating States welcomed requests made by Latvia and Russia for CSCE assistance in the implementation of the above Agreement and asked the Permanent Committee to work out the necessary modalities.

Establishment:
Permanent Council Decision No. 17, 23 February 1995.

2. Tasks

At its 9th Plenary Meeting on 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council reached a decision (PC.DEC/17) on the modalities for the *OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative*[4], mandated with the following tasks:

- *to consider, together with the representatives of the Latvian and Russian Parties, appeals on matters involving the rights of persons to whom the Agreement applies*;
- *to participate in the adoption of recommendations and decisions on the basis of consensus*;
- *to consider, at the request of either of the Parties, questions relating to the application of the provisions of the Agreement and the Protocol thereto, including the rights of the persons to whom the Agreement applies, as laid down therein*.

3. Deployment

In Decision No. 17 of 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council stipulated that the OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative are appointed by the Chairperson-in-Office, with

[4]This decision supersedes an earlier decision adopted by the Permanent Committee on 30 June 1994 on the same subject.

the approval of the Parties. In the course of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Latvia they may be chosen from among the personnel of the Mission.

During the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Latvia, the office of the OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative were co-located with the OSCE Mission.

4. Duration

No limitations as to the duration of the Representative's work have been set.

5. Composition

Until the closure of the OSCE Mission to Latvia, the Head of Mission, Ambassador Peter Semneby (Sweden), was the OSCE Representative to the Joint Commission. On 10 July 2002, Mr. Helmut Napiontek (Germany) was appointed by the OSCE Chairmanship as the new OSCE Representative to the Joint Commission.

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners at EUR 9,300.

Other Field Related Personal Representatives of the Chairperson-in-Office

Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina

1. Basic decisions

During the Ministerial Council held in Budapest in 1995, the OSCE took the decision to designate Personal Representative(s) of the Chairperson-in-Office to assist the Parties in the former Yugoslavia in their negotiations and implementation of the Agreements under Annex 1 B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Peace Accords).

2. Tasks

In accordance with the decisions on OSCE Action for Peace, Democracy and Stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina (MC(5).DEC/1), the Personal Representative for Article IV is tasked to assist the Parties in the implementation of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.

The Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV has the mandate to support the effective implementation of the Agreement, brokering political consensus, ensuring that the process flows, and surmounting obstacles to the Agreement's implementation.

The Personal Representative will maintain a seat on the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission (SRCC), the forum governing the Agreement, chaired on rotation by the Parties to the Agreement. He/she will promote, in consultation with the Parties, the organization of the biennial conference to review the implementation of the Agreement.

He/she will continue being responsible for co-coordinating the inspections conducted in the Sub-Region under the auspices of Article IV and will furthermore provide active assistance to the Parties.

The Personal Representative will continue recommending the training of Article IV Inspectors, Escort and Assistants in all the appropriate centers, such as NATO School and the RACVIAC. He/she will take part or will ensure the participation of experts as lectures to these training activities.

He/she will assist the Parties Verification Agencies in maintaining their Information Exchange Documents and Notifications at the current high level of quality, providing contributing assessments and analysis to the Parties.

The Personal Representative will promote the adoption of the OSCE Communications Network, using the English language, thus speeding up the exchange of information, documents and notifications pertaining to the Agreement itself.

He/she will co-ordinate; in consultation with the Parties, the periodical update of the Agreement, necessary to collect in an appropriate format all the substantial amendments and SRCC decisions adopted by the Parties.

The Personal Representative will hold meetings with the authorities of the Parties governments and the members of the contact group in order to keep them informed, to achieve their perspectives and continue fostering the sub-regional consensus on the implementation of the Agreement.

In general, the Personal Representative will monitor the development of the most important issues in the sub-region, with particular focus on those which are linked with Regional Stability.

3. Deployment

The Article IV Office is located in Vienna. Inspection Teams of the Parties together with Assistants of OSCE States conduct inspections on the territories of the four acting Parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia.

4. Duration

No limitation as to the duration of the Article IV Office has been set. The Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control (Article IV) shall be of unlimited duration.

5. Composition

4 seconded posts
1 administrative post

6. Financial Implications

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2013, adopted on 7 February 2013, PC.DEC/1073, established the budget of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina at EUR 212,900.

ANNEX II - Closed Field Operations and Related Field Activities

The OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
15th CSO Meeting, 14 August 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 1

Modalities:
16th CSO Meeting, 18 September 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 1
17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 3[5]
18th CSO Meeting, 13 December 1992, Journal No. 3 (decision 5k)
Decisions of the Ministerial Council, Stockholm, 14 – 15 December 1992 (paragraph 8 of Section 1 "Former Yugoslavia")
19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993, Journal No. 3 (decision 5a)
315th Permanent Council Decision No. 401, 11 January 2001

2. Tasks

The mandate, as contained in the CSO decision of 14 August 1992 and reiterated in the MoU, consisted of four parts:

- *promote dialogue between authorities concerned and representatives of the populations and communities in the three regions* [Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina];

- *collect information on all aspects relevant to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and promote solutions to such problems*;

- *establish contact points for solving problems that might be identified*;

- *assist in providing information on relevant legislation on human rights, protection of minorities, free media and democratic elections*.

The Modalities and Financial Implications, adopted by the CSO on 6 November 1992, gave a more detailed account of the tasks for each of the three regions.

3. Deployment

The Missions started their work on 8 September 1992; the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 28 October 1992 in Belgrade.

[5] As worked out and preliminarily agreed upon by the CSCE Ad Hoc Group.

The Mission to Kosovo was based in Pristina (with permanent presence in Pec and Prizren), the Mission to Sandjak in Novi Pazar (with a permanent presence in Priepolje), and the Mission to Vojvodina in Subotica. The Missions had a common office in Belgrade.
The Missions were withdrawn in July 1993 after expiration of the MoU, since the FRY authorities refused the OSCE's (then the CSCE) request to prolong it.

In a special session on Kosovo on 11 March 1998, the Permanent Council decided (PC.DEC/218) to call on FRY authorities:

To accept without preconditions, an immediate return of the OSCE missions of long duration to Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina, noting the return of these missions as essential for future participation in the OSCE by the FRY.

In its decision No. 401 of 11 January 2001 the Permanent Council, taking into account United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and welcoming the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for an OSCE Mission decided to establish an OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. With this decision, the OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina were formally closed.

4. Duration

According to the MoU the duration of the Missions was limited to an initial period of 6 months from the beginning of their activities; extension of this period was subject to mutual agreement by the Parties. In a Protocol signed by the Government of the FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Head of Mission on 29 April 1993, the period was extended until 28 June 1993.

There was no further agreement on extension thereafter.

5. Composition

In the Modalities and Financial Implications, the size of the Missions was limited to 12 members, to be supplemented as required. An increase to 20 members was authorized at the 17th CSO Meeting in November 1992 and a doubling to 40 members was authorized by the CSO Vienna Group in January 1993. In reality however, the Missions never exceeded a total of 20 members.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Tore Bøgh, Norway. Afterwards, the functions of the Head of Mission were carried out by the Chairperson-in-Office.

The OSCE Mission to Ukraine

1. Basic decisions

Establishment:
27th CSO Meeting, 15 June 1994, Journal No. 3, Decision (c)

Terms of Reference:
Permanent Committee, 25 August 1994, Journal No. 31, annex

2. Tasks

According to the CSO Decision of 15 June 1994 on the sending of CSCE experts on constitutional and economic matters to Ukraine, the Mission was established *with the task, inter alia, of supporting the work of the aforementioned experts and reporting on the situation in the Crimea*[6]

According to the Permanent Committee Decision of 25 August 1994, the initial tasks of the Mission included:

- *establishing contacts with all authorities concerned, relevant institutions, representatives of various communities and non-governmental organisations, with the aim of collecting information as well as helping to prevent tensions and improve mutual understanding*;

- *providing objective reporting, on a regular basis, on all aspects of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine), or factors influencing it, and efforts towards the solution of its problems*;

- *analysing the current situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine) and submitting suggestions to the appropriate authorities for the solution of existing problems*;

- *providing support to the experts on constitutional and economic matters, sent to Ukraine by the Committee of Senior Officials to facilitate the dialogue between the central Government and the Crimean authorities concerning the autonomous status of the Republic of Crimea within Ukraine (cf. 27-CSO/Journal No. 3, Decision (c)); in particular, the Mission will assist the experts during their presence in Ukraine and ensure the necessary follow-up during their absence from Ukraine, including participation in interim meetings, reporting to them on new developments and collecting relevant documents;*

- *co-operating with the CSCE High Commissioner on national Minorities;*

- *preparing reports on the situation of human rights and rights of persons belonging to national minorities in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine);*

[6] The three experts made their first visit to Ukraine from 9 – 14 August 1994; other visits followed.

- *on the basis of any recommendations by the CSCE experts, formulating proposals to contribute to the development of economic programmes including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine);*

- *monitoring and promoting free media principles.*

3. Deployment

The Mission became operational on 24 November 1994. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Ukrainian Government and the Mission to Ukraine on 24 January 1995.

The Mission had its headquarters in Kiev and maintained a branch office in Simferopol.

4. Duration

The Mission's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1994. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 42nd Permanent Committee Meeting, 21 November 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 27th Permanent Council Meeting, PC.DEC/55, 29 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 48th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/91, 30 November 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 76th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/131, 27 June 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/148, 12 December 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 118th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/169, 5 June 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 143rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/204, 11 December 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 174th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/238, 25 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 202nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/278, 17 December 1998:	until 30 April 1999;

5. Composition

In accordance with the recommendation of the Chairperson's Statement of 11 December 1997, the number of international Mission staff was reduced from six to four.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Charles Magee of the United States.

The OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission

1. Basic decisions

Establishment: 193rd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 25 October 1998, (PC.DEC/263). Interpretative Statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations.

Terms of Reference:
- ibid
- 156th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998 (PC.DEC/218)
- Statement of the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE of 7 October 1998.
- Agreement on the OSCE Kosovo Verification Missions signed in Belgrade, on 16 October 1998, by the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (CIO.GAL/65/98/Corr.1)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 259, 15 October 1998 (PC.DEC/259/98)
- Agreement between NATO and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, 15 October 1998
- United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998) and 1203 (1998) (CIO.GAL/68/98)

2. Tasks

In its Decision No. 259 of 15 October 1998 the Permanent Council, acting within the framework of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1199, *declared the preparedness of the OSCE to embark upon verification activities related to compliance of all parties in Kosovo with the requirements set forth by the international community with regard to the solution of the crisis in Kosovo.* the Permanent Council supported the Chairperson-in-Office's efforts to arrange with the FRY authorities for the OSCE to give its contribution to the peaceful solution of the crisis in Kosovo.

In its Decision No. 263 of 25 October 1998, the Permanent Council decided to *establish the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) in accordance with the mandate contained in the agreement signed by the CiO (CIO.GAL/65/98).*

The Agreement on the Kosovo Verification Mission signed by the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in part II General Responsibilities, Roles and Missions, enumerates the following tasks:

- *to verify compliance by all parties in Kosovo with UN Security Council Resolution 1199, and to report instances of progress and/or non-compliance to the OSCE Permanent Council, the United Nations Security Council and other organisations. These reports will also be provided to the authorities of the FRY;*

- *to maintain close liaison with FRY, Serbian and, as appropriate, other Kosovo authorities, political parties and other organisations in Kosovo and accredited international and non-government organisations to assist in fulfilling its responsibilities;*

- *to supervise elections in Kosovo to ensure their openness and fairness in accordance with*

regulations and procedures to be agreed;

- *to report and make recommendations to the OSCE Permanent Council, the UN Security Council and other organizations on areas covered by UN Security Council Resolution 1199.*

These general responsibilities are further specified in Chapter III of the Agreement under Specific Terms of Reference entrusting the Kosovo Verification Mission with the following tasks:

- *(…) verify the maintenance of the cease-fire by all elements. (…) investigate reports of cease-fire violations;*

- *(…) receive weekly information from relevant FRY/Serbian military/police headquarters in Kosovo regarding movements of forces (…). Upon request of the Verification Mission Director, Mission personnel may he invited to accompany police within Kosovo;*

- *(…) look for and report on roadb1ocks and other emplacements which influence lines of communications erected for purposes other than traffic or crime control;*

- *maintain liaison with FRY authorities about border control activity and movement units with border control responsibilities (…). The Verification Mission, when invited by the FRY authorities or upon its request, will visit border control units and accompany them as they perform their normal border control roles;*

- *when invited or upon request, the Verification Mission will accompany police units in Kosovo as they perform their normal policing roles;*

- *assist UNHCR, ICRC and other international organizations in facilitating the return of displaced persons to their homes (…). The Mission will verify the level of co-operation and support provided by the FRY and its entities to the humanitarian organizations and accredited NGOs (...);*

- *As the political settlement defining Kosovo's self-government is achieved and implementation begins, the Mission Director will assist, both with his own resources and with augmented OSCE implementation support, in areas such as elections supervision, assistance in the establishment of Kosovo institutions and police force development in Kosovo;*

- *The Mission Director will receive periodic updates from the relevant authorities concerning eventual allegations of abusive actions by military or police personnel and status of disciplinary or legal actions against individuals implicated in such abuses;*

- *(…) maintain liaison with FRY, Serbian and, as appropriate, Kosovo authorities and with ICRC regarding ICRC access to detained persons;*

- *(…) convene representatives of national communities and authorities to exchange information and provide guidance on implementation of the agreement establishing the Verification Mission;*

- *(...) report instances of progress and/or non-compliance or lack of full co-operation from any side to the OSCE and other organizations.*

3. Deployment

The OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) reached a strength of approximately 1500 international staff by February 1999 but was unable to carry out the full scope of the tasks allocated under the FRY-OSCE Agreement. The security situation in Kosovo during this period was characterized as tense. Following a steady deterioration in the security situation in the Province, the OSCE CiO, Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek withdrew the KVM on 20 March 1999. The KVM was then temporarily based in Skopje, the capital of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The bulk of its Mission members were repatriated. The Mission was temporarily organized as a Mission "Core", responsible for administration and planning for the re-entry of an OSCE Mission to Kosovo; a Task Force in Albania to assist UNHCR with the refugee crisis and to conduct human rights investigations; and a further Task Force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia performing similar functions. The KVM was later dissolved and the Task Force for Kosovo created in its stead by PC.DEC/296 on 8 June 1999, primarily tasked with preparing for re-deployment to Kosovo and continuing to assist the UN and other international organizations. The Task Force for Kosovo was dissolved on 1 July 1999 and replaced by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo by PC.DEC/305.

4. Duration

In its Decision No. 263, paragraph 3, the Permanent Council decided to establish the KVM for one year, with extensions upon the request of either the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office or the FRY government. The Delegation of the Russian Federation formulated an interpretative statement to paragraph 3 of the Decision, attached to the Decision. The KVM was dissolved and the Task Force for Kosovo created in its stead by PC.DEC/296 on 8 June 1999.

5. Composition

The Agreement of 16 October 1998 foresaw in part IV the following structure for the Kosovo Verification Mission:

A Director, together with headquarters staff to be determined by Verification Mission requirements.

2000 unarmed verifiers from OSCE member states will *be permitted. Headquarters and support staff included in this total. The Mission may be augmented with technical experts provided by OSCE.*

A headquarters in Pristina.

Field presence in locations around Kosovo to be determined by *the Mission Director.*

A small liaison office in Belgrade.

Part V of the Agreement Field Presence established the following provisions:

Coordination Centres will be established in the capital of each opstina in Kosovo with specific areas of responsibility, under the Mission Director located in Pristina.

Many opstina coordination centres will have one or more sub-stations in smaller towns/villages in the opstina. The number and location of sub-stations will vary from opstina to opstina, depending on the verification environment and past conflict situation.

As described above the composition of the KVM subsequently evolved during the Spring and early Summer of 1999 into those now found in the OSCE Mission in Kosovo within the UNMiK structure.

The OSCE Representative to the Joint Committee on the Skrunda Radar Station

1. Basic decisions

On 30 April 1994, Latvia and Russia signed an agreement *on the Legal Status of the Skrunda Radar Station During its temporary Operation and Dismantling*.

Article 14 of the above Agreement provides for the establishment of a Joint Committee, *consisting of an equal number of representatives of both Parties and a representative or representatives from an international organization of which both Parties are members*, to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation. The Joint Committee shall discuss and, on the basis of consensus, decide upon any question in connection with the implementation of the Agreement.

In addition, Article 15 of the same Agreement calls for the holding of periodic and challenge inspections by the OSCE (then CSCE) in order to monitor the implementation.

At the 27th CSO Meeting on 15 June 1994, participating States welcomed requests made by Latvia and Russia for OSCE (then CSCE) assistance in the implementation of the above Agreement and asked the Permanent Committee to work out the necessary modalities.

On 30 June 1994, the Permanent Committee requested the Chairperson-in-Office to appoint an OSCE (then CSCE) Representative and an Alternate Representative to the Joint Committee established by Article 14 of the above Agreement.

At its 9th Meeting on 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council decided on the Terms of Reference for an OSCE inspection regime (PC.DEC/16). The decision provides for the establishment of a list of no more than 30 persons from which the members of the inspection teams are chosen by the Chairperson-in-Office.

Upon conclusion of the temporary functioning of the Skrunda Radar Station, the Permanent Council, at its 176th Plenary Meeting on 9 July 1998, decided on the Modification of the Rules and Modalities for the Implementation of Inspections, setting out the tasks of inspections in the dismantling period (PC.DEC/242).

2. Tasks

The tasks of the Representative were as follows:

- *to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation of the Agreement*;
- *to initiate and participate in discussions on questions in connection with the implementation of the Agreement and to participate in decisions taken by the Joint Committee on the basis of consensus*;
- *to participate in establishing the procedural and organizational modalities for the functioning of the Joint Committee*;
- *to report regularly to the Permanent Committee through the Chairman-in-Office*.

3. Deployment

On 6 April 1995, the Chairperson-in-Office announced the appointment of an OSCE Representative.

On 29 May 1995, a Joint Committee was set up at the Skrunda Radar Station and the first regular meeting took place on 4 July 1995.

4. Duration

The duration of the Representative's work corresponds to the duration of the work of the Joint Committee. The conclusion of the temporary operation of the Skrunda Radar Station was confirmed by an OSCE Inspection Team on 3 September 1998. The dismantling of the Skrunda Radar Station was confirmed by an OSCE Inspection Team on 19 October 1999. In total, 12 periodic inspections were conducted. The final meeting of the Joint Committee took place on 22 October 1999 at which it was decided to disband the Committee by 31 October 1999.

5. Composition

The OSCE Representatives were: Mr. Jörgen Andersen of Denmark (from April 1995 to July 1998) and Col. Jürgen W. Hübschen of Germany (from 1 August 1998).

The OSCE Mission to Estonia

1. Basic decisions

Establishment:
18th CSO Meeting, 13 December 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 2

Terms of Reference:
19th CSO Meeting, 3 February 1993, Journal No. 2, Annex 1

2. Tasks

According to the CSO Decision from 13 December 1992, the objective of the Mission was *to further promote integration and better understanding between the communities in Estonia*.

The mandate contained in the Terms of Reference consisted of the following elements:

- *establish and maintain contacts with competent authorities on both the national and the local level, in particular with those responsible for citizenship, migration, language questions, social services and employment*;

- *establish and maintain contacts with relevant non-governmental institutions and organizations, including political parties, trade unions and mass media organizations*;

- *collect information and serve as a clearing-house for information, technical assistance and advice on matters relating to the status of the communities in Estonia and the rights and duties of their members*;

- *contribute to the efforts of Estonian national and local authorities to re-create a civic society, inter alia through the promotion of local mechanisms to facilitate dialogue and understanding*;

- *keeping in mind the temporary nature of the Mission, consider ways and means of transferring its responsibilities to institutions or organizations representing the local population*.

3. Deployment

The Mission started its work on 15 February 1993 in Tallinn. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Estonia was signed the same day.

In addition to the office in Tallinn, the Mission had established offices in Jõhvi and in Narva.

4. Duration

According to the MoU, the Mission was established for a period of six month from the date of signature; extension of this period may be decided by participating States. Subsequent prolongations of the Mandate were decided at:

- 18th CSO Vienna Group Meeting, 24 June 1993:	until 3 February 1994;
- 5th Permanent Committee Meeting, 20 January 1994:	until 30 June 1994;
- 25th Permanent Committee Meeting, 23 June 1994:	until 31 December 1994:
- 1st Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/1, 15 December 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 25th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/48, 13 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 48th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/90, 30 November 1995:	until 30 June 1996
- 68th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/119, 9 May 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 92nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/142, 14 November 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 119th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/172, 10 June 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/197, 27 November 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 172nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/230, 11 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 200th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/273, 26 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/297, 17 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/328, 9 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;
- 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/358, 15 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/390, 7 December 2000:	until 30 June 2001;
- 345th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/421, 28 June 2001.	until 31 December 2001.

The mandate of the Mission to Estonia expired on 31 December 2001.

5. Composition

According to the Terms of Reference, the authorized strength of the Mission was 6 members.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Doris Hertrampf of Germany.

The OSCE Mission to Latvia

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
23rd CSO Meeting, 23 September 1993, Journal No. 3, Annex 3

Terms of Reference:
31st Meeting of the CSO Vienna Group, 7 October 1993, Annex 1

2. Tasks

The mandate of the Mission, spelled out in the CSO Decision of September 1993 and reiterated in the Terms of Reference, consisted of the following elements:

- *address citizenship issues and other related matters and be at the disposal of the Latvian Government and authorities for advice on such issues*;
- *provide information and advice to institutions, organizations and individuals with an interest in a dialogue on these issues*;
- *gather information and report on developments relevant to the full realization of CSCE principles, norms and commitments*.

3. Deployment

The Head of Mission and two Mission members started work in Riga on 19 November 1993. The MoU with the Government of Latvia was signed on 13 December 1993. The Mission was based in Riga.

4. Duration

According to the Terms of Reference, the Mission operated for a period of 6 months, subject to revision by the CSO or the CSO Vienna Group. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 18th Permanent Committee Meeting, 5 May 1994:	until 31 December 1994;
- 1st Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/2, 15 December 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 23rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/46, 1 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 47th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/88, 23 November 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 76th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/132, 27 June 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/147, 12 December 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 121st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/177, 26 June 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 142nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/201, 4 December 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 172nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/229, 11 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 200th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/274, 26 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/298, 17 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/321, 2 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;

- 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/357, 15 June 2000: until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/391, 7 December 2000: until 30 June 2001;
- 342th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/416, 21 June 2001: until 31 December 2001.

The mandate of the Mission to Latvia expired on 31 December 2001.

5. Composition

The initial size authorized in the Terms of Reference was 4 members, with an option to increase the number of Mission members to a total of 6. At the 3rd Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 21 December 1993, the number of Mission members was increased by two. At the 29th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 21 July 1994, the authorized size of the Mission was increased by one additional member to a total of 7.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Peter Semneby of Sweden.

The OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: 129th meeting of the Permanent Council, 18 September 1997, Decision No. 185 (PC.DEC/185).

2. Tasks

Through PC Decision 185 of 18 September 1997, the Permanent Council decided to establish an OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus, which, in co-operation with Belarusian authorities and other international organizations, would perform the following tasks:

- *assist the Belarusian authorities in promoting democratic institutions and in complying with other OSCE commitments*; and
- *monitor and report on this process*.

3. Deployment

The Group started work in Minsk in January 1998, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Belarus and the OSCE on the AMG having been signed on 18 December 1997.

4. Duration

No limitations as to the duration of the Group's work were set at the time of its establishment. Through PC Decision 526 of 30 December 2002, the Permanent Council decided to close the OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus on 31 December 2002.

5. Composition

The Advisory and Monitoring Group was staffed by a Head of Group and a team of four experts on all relevant aspects.

Ambassador Hans-Georg Wieck (Germany) completed his assignment as Head of Group in December 2001.

The OSCE Assistance Group to Chechnya

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
16th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 11 April 1995, PC.DEC/35

2. Tasks

As laid down in the Decision of the Permanent Council of 11 April 1995, the Assistance Group (AG) performed the following tasks, in conjunction with Russian federal and local authorities, and in full conformity with the legislation of the Russian Federation:

- *promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the establishment of facts concerning their violation; help foster the development of democratic institutions and processes, including the restoration of the local organs of authority; assist in the preparation of possible new constitutional agreements and in the holding and monitoring of elections*;

- *facilitate the delivery to the region by international and non-governmental organizations of humanitarian aid for victims of the crisis, wherever they may be located*;

- *provide assistance to the authorities of the Russian Federation and to international organizations in ensuring the speediest possible return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes in the crisis region*;

- *promote the peaceful resolution of the crisis and the stabilization of the situation in the Chechen Republic in conformity with the principle of the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation and in accordance with OSCE principles and pursue dialogue and negotiations, as appropriate, through participation in 'round tables', with a view to establishing a cease-fire and eliminating sources of tension*;

- *support the creation of mechanisms guaranteeing the rule of law, public safety and law and order*.

3. Deployment

The OSCE AG to Chechnya began working in Grozny on 26 April 1995 and operated from there until 16 December 1998, when the AG's international staff was evacuated to Moscow due to the deteriorating security situation. In subsequent months, the AG conducted several working visits to Grozny. Renewed armed hostilities required the remaining AG local staff to be evacuated to Ingushetia in September 1999. In December 2000 local staff moved to the new AG office in Znamenskoye in the north of Chechnya.

Since the beginning of 2001 the immediate priority of the AG's activities was to ensure the return of its international staff to Chechnya. The negotiation process that began in 2000 to solve technical problems impeding the AG's return, led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Security between the AG and the Ministry of Justice of the Russian

Federation. On 15 June 2001, after almost two and a half years of evacuation, the AG's international staff returned to Chechnya.

4. Duration

Initially, no limitations as to the duration of the Group's work were set. Subsequently, through a Permanent Council Decision No 454/Corr.1 of 21 December 2001 the mandate of the Group was extended for one year until 31 December 2002.

The mandate was not further extended and the administrative closure of the Assistance Group was completed on 21 March 2003.

5. Composition

The authorized strength of the Assistance Group was six international staff members. The Chairperson-in-Office, in consultation with the Russian Federation, was authorized to decide on the group's membership.

The last Head of the Assistance Group was Ambassador Jorma Inki of Finland.

The OSCE Centre in Tashkent

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council, 16 March 1995, Journal No. 12, Point 5 PC.DEC/28.
Permanent Council, 14 December 2000, Journal No. 314, Agenda item 7, PC.DEC/397.

2. Tasks

In its Decision of 14 December 2000 the Permanent Council recalled its Decisions Nos. 28 of 16 March 1995, 118 of 9 May 1996, and 231 of 11 June 1998; took into account the expanded presence of the OSCE in Central Asia in line with Decisions Nos. 243, 244, 245, all of 23 July 1998; recognized the change of the focus of the activities of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia (CALO); and welcomed the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to continue its intensive co-operation with the OSCE.

The Permanent Council decided:

- *To change the name of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia to the OSCE Centre in Tashkent and to change the title of Head of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia to Head of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent;*

- *To give the OSCE Centre in Tashkent the following tasks:*

Given the OSCE's role as primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, to promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Uzbekistan within the OSCE framework;

To facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, OSCE bodies and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;

To maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and non-governmental organizations;

To assist in arranging OSCE events and activities, including visits by OSCE delegations;

To liaise and co-operate closely with the OSCE presences in the region;

To perform tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the OSCE

3. Deployment

The Centre in Tashkent started operating on 1 July 2006. The formal basis for the operation of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent was, *mutatis mutandis*, the Memorandum of Understanding

signed on 12 July 1995 between the Government of Uzbekistan and the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Permanent Council Decisions referred to above. The premises and assets of the CALO were carried over to the Centre in Tashkent.

4. Duration

Permanent Council Decision 661 of 3 February 2005 decided to make the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent a renewable one and approved the mandate until 31 December 2005. The Permanent Council decided to hold annual reviews of the implementation of the mandate and the activities of the Centre. Permanent Council Decision 714 of 22 December 2005 extended the mandate of the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent until its expiry on 31 June 2006 when the Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was established.

5. Composition

The OSCE Centre in Tashkent was led by a Head of Centre assisted by a team of three experts seconded by OSCE participating States.

The last Head of Centre was Ambassador Miroslav Jenca of Slovakia.

The OSCE Representative to the Estonian Expert Commission on Military Pensioners

1. Basic decisions

According to Article 2, Paragraph 2 of the Estonian/Russian Bilateral Agreement on Matters Related to Social Guarantees for Military Pensioners of the Russian Federation on the Territory of the Republic of Estonia, signed on 26 July 1994, a *representative of the CSCE shall be invited to participate in the work of the Government commission which will make recommendations on the issuance of residence permits*.

At the 28th CSO Meeting on 16 September 1994, at the request of the Government of Estonia, the Chairperson-in-Office was asked to appoint a Representative of the OSCE.

2. Tasks

The main task of the OSCE Representative was to participate in the work of the Estonian Government commission. The Representative was also tasked with keeping the Chairperson-in-Office informed of the work of the commission.

3. Deployment

The OSCE Representative was appointed on 4 November 1994 by the Chairperson-in-Office and took up his position on 16 November 1994. He operated from an office in Tallinn.

The Commission, having completed its task after the review of some 26,400 cases since its establishment, was deactivated as of 1 September 2006, allowing termination of the mandate.

4. Duration

The duration of the Representative's work corresponds to the duration of the work of the Estonian Government Commission.

5. Composition

The last OSCE Representative was Mr. Uwe Mahrenholtz of Germany.

The OSCE Mission to Croatia

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
Permanent Council, 18 April 1996, PC.DEC/112[7]

Terms of reference:
Permanent Council, 26 June 1997, PC.DEC/176
Permanent Council, 17 July 1997, PC.DEC/181
Permanent Council, 25 June 1998, PC.DEC/239
Permanent Council, 21 September 2000. PC.DEC/373
Permanent Council, 14 December 2000, PC.DEC/396
United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1145 (19 December 1997)

2. Tasks

In the Decision of 18 April 1996 the Permanent Council noted the reports of the Fact-Finding Mission of the OSCE to Croatia (6 to 10 October 1995), and of the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on his visit to Croatia (20 to 23 February 1996), reaffirmed the OSCE's principles and commitments and its full support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia, and welcomed the invitation of the Government of Croatia for an OSCE Mission.

The Permanent Council decided that:

- *The Mission will provide assistance and expertise to the Croatian authorities at all levels, as well as to interested individuals, groups and organizations, in the field of the protection of human rights and of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In this context and in order to promote reconciliation, the rule of law and conformity with the highest internationally recognized standards, the Mission will also assist and advise on the full implementation of legislation and monitor the proper functioning and development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms.*
- *In carrying out its tasks, the Mission will co-operate with and use the expertise of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. It will also co-operate with other international organizations and institutions, notably the Council of Europe, the ECMM, the Special Envoy for Regional Issues, UNHCR, the ICRC and relevant NGOs.*
- *The Mission will offer close co-operation to UNTAES[8], in particular as regards confidence-building and reconciliation, as well as the development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms at the municipal and district/county level.*

In the Decision No. 176 of 26 June 1997 the Permanent Council made the following amendments to its Decision No. 112 of 18 April 1996:

[7] Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 19 April 1996 at 4 pm.
[8] United Nations Transitional Authority in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium

The Permanent Council decided to:

- *Pursue OSCE tasks in the Republic of Croatia on the basis of PC Decision No. 112 of 18 April 1996, as amended by this Decision;*

- *Reaffirm the availability of all OSCE institutions to assist in the development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms;*

- *Authorize the Mission:*
- *To assist with and to monitor implementation of Croatian legislation and agreements and commitments entered into by the Croatian Government on:*
  - *Two-way return of all refugees and displaced persons and on protection of their rights, and*
  - *The protection of persons belonging to national minorities;*
- *To make specific recommendations to the Croatian authorities and refer, as appropriate, urgent issues to the Permanent Council.*

The Permanent Council in the Decision No. 239 of 25 June 1998 recalled its Decisions Nos. 112 and 176 and the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1145 of 19 December 1997 and also welcomed the understanding reached between the Chairperson-in-Office and Croatian authorities and the readiness and commitment of the Government of Croatia to ensure the appropriate implementation of the Decision, as expressed in the letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia, Dr. Mate Granic, to the Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/32/98 Restr.). Further, the Permanent Council expressed:

the readiness of the OSCE to deploy civilian police monitors to assume the responsibilities of the United Nations Police Support Group (UNPSG) personnel deployed in the Croatian Danubian region, which will be based on the following understandings:

- *the overall number of OSCE police monitors deployed in the Danubian region will not exceed 120;*

- *Actual deployment of the OSCE personnel will take place with a view to ensuring a proper transition from United Nations to OSCE police monitoring in anticipation of the end of the UNPSG mandate on 15 October 1998;*

- *No financial implications for the 1998 budget of the OSCE Mission to Croatia are envisaged.*

The Permanent Council in its Decision No. 373, of 21 September 200l, referred to the Chairperson's perception expressed at the Permanent Council Meeting on 13 July 2000 (PC.DEL/386/00) and the proposal by the OSCE Mission to Croatia of 11 August 2000 that the Police Monitoring Group in the Danube region of Croatia should be downsized and phased out (CIO.GAL/74/00), acknowledged the fact that the OSCE Police Monitoring Group had contributed to the peaceful integration of the Danube Region and took note of the fact that the security situation in the Danube region had remained stable during 2000. Further the Permanent Council:

- Decided *that the Police Monitoring Group will cease operations as a distinct unit within the OSCE Mission to Croatia by 31 October 2000;*

- Authorized *the OSCE Mission to Croatia, on the basis of the proposal by the OSCE Mission to Croatia of 11 August 2000 (CIO.GAL.74/00), to appoint experienced international civilian police officers and integrate them administratively and operationally into the Mission, as appropriate;*

- Authorized the Mission *to continue playing its civilian police monitoring and advisory role in the Danube region, as well as in other parts of Croatia;*

- Requested the Mission *to continue to report to the Permanent Council on the security situation in the Danube region, as well as in other parts of Croatia, on a regular basis;*

- Instructed the Mission *to reflect these reductions in savings in the Mission's year 2000 budget.*

3. Deployment

The Mission started working in Zagreb on 4 July 1996. The regional office in Knin opened on 13 August 1996. The regional office in Vukovar opened in 30 August 1996.

Pursuant to the PC Decision No. 126 of 29 June 1997 the Mission transformed the Knin and Vukovar Regional Offices into Co-ordination Centres (CC), established two more CCs in Sisak and Daruvar and a Zagreb area office co-located with the HQ.

The Mission was composed of a Headquarters in Zagreb and Field Centres in Knin, Vukovar and Sisak. In addition, the Mission had six Field Offices and six sub-offices.

4. Duration

The Mission's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1996. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/146, 12 December 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 121st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/176, 26 June 1997:	until 31 December 1998;
- 199th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/271/Corr., 19 November 1998:	until 31 December 1999;
- 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/327, 9 December 1999:	until 31 March 2000;
- 276th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/345, 23 March 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
-314th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/396, 14 December 2000:	until 31 December 2001;
-375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/455, 21 December 2001:	until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/514, 12 December 2002:	until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/578, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/644, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
-580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/695, 17 November 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC748, 23 November 2006;	until 31 December 2007.

The mandate of the Mission to Croatia expired on 31 December 2007, and was replaced by the Office in Zagreb.

5. Composition

The modalities (PC.DEC/112) foresaw that *the Mission would establish its headquarters in Zagreb and regional offices in Knin and Vukovar. It was composed of up to 8 members at headquarters, and of up to 3 members at each regional office. The appointment of the Head of Mission by the Chairman-in-Office will be subject to consultation with the authorities of the host country.*

The PC Decision No. 176 of 26 June 1997 authorized the Mission to *build up Mission personnel, starting July 1997, to a ceiling of 250 expatriates with a view to full deployment by October 1998. The current number of Mission members is 64. The personnel will be deployed by decision of the Head of Mission.*

The PC Decision No. 181 of 17 July 1997 *agrees that the Secretariat may recruit a maximum of four key administrative and support posts at the Mission Headquarters..... The principle of providing international staff for OSCE Missions exclusively on a secondment basis remains valid.*

In the understanding reached between the Chairperson-in-Office and Croatian authorities a temporary and technical increase in the ceiling to a maximum of 280 international personnel could be authorized. Permanent Council Decision No. 345, of 23 March 2000, reduced the authorized level of international personnel to 225. Permanent Council Decision No. 396, of 14 December 2000, further reduced the ceiling to 120. Permanent Council Decision No. 424 of 28 June 2001 authorised the Mission to maintain up to 100 international personnel. This number was further reduced to 90 international personnel by Permanent Council Decision No. 455 of 21 December 2001 and to 67 by Permanent Council Decision No. 514 of 12 December 2002. The total number of international staff was progressively reduced to reach 51 in July 2005 and 39 by 2006.

The Mission employed 30 internationals and 117 nationals, totaling 147 staff members.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Jorge Fuentes Monzonis-Vilallonga of Spain.

The OSCE Centre in Dushanbe

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: 4th Meeting of the Council, Rome, 1 December 1993, Decision I.4

Terms of Reference: ibid.

Change of Mandate: PC.DEC/500/Corr.1, 31 October 2002

2. Tasks

2.1. At its 418th Plenary Meeting on 31 October 2002, the Permanent Council decided:

1. To change the name of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan[9]*, including its field offices, to the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe and to change the title of the Head of Mission of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan to Head of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe;*

2. To give the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe the following tasks:

- *Given the OSCE role as a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, to promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Tajikistan within the OSCE framework, with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability;*
- *To promote ways and means for the OSCE to assist in the development of a legal framework and democratic political institutions and processes including the respect for human rights;*
- *To facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, OSCE bodies and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*
- *To establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs;*
- *To assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations as well as other events with OSCE participation;*
- *To perform these tasks, and others agreed on by the Republic of Tajikistan and the OSCE within its current mandate, in close co-operation and consultation with the authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan and with full respect for its national laws and regulations;*

[9] cf. 2.2. former Mandate of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan

3. To task the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe, with regard to existing economic, social and environmental threats to the security in Tajikistan, to develop further - in co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan - the Centre's activities in the economic and environmental dimension. In each field office one officer will be responsible for economic and environmental issues. The economic and environmental officer in the Centre in Dushanbe, who will occupy a senior management position, will be tasked to co-ordinate these activities;

4. To promote the implementation of decisions of the Bucharest Ministerial Council and the "Bishkek International Conference on Enhancing Security and Stability in Central Asia: Strengthening Comprehensive Efforts to Counter Terrorism", in the areas of police-related activities, border control and anti-trafficking;

5. To instruct the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe to liaise and co-operate closely with the other OSCE Centres in the region in order to maintain the coherence of the regional approach of the OSCE;

Furthermore, it was decided that:

6. The personnel, present premises and assets of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan will be carried over to the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe.

2.2. The mandate of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan, outlined in the Rome Council Decisions consisted of the following elements:

- *maintain contact with and facilitate dialogue and confidence-building between regionalist and political forces in the country*;

- *actively promote respect for human rights*;

- *promote and monitor adherence to CSCE norms and principles*;

- *promote ways and means for the CSCE to assist in the development of legal and democratic political institutions and processes*;

- *keep the CSCE informed about further developments*.

On the basis of the above mandate, the Permanent Council at its 28th Plenary Meeting on 6 July 1995 decided[10] to request the Mission to follow the human rights situation of returning refugees and internally displaced persons in Tajikistan, to draw the attention of the Tajik authorities to problems affecting these groups with a view to facilitating their reintegration into Tajik society, and to report on this matter on a regular basis.

At its 60th Plenary Meeting on 29 February 1996, the Permanent Council tasked:

- *the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan with offering assistance and advice to the independent Ombudsman institution and with reporting regularly on its activities;*

[10] Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 10 July 1995, at 5 pm, without an objection.

- *the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, with the assistance of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan, with conducting a comprehensive review of the institution's accomplishments after the first year of operation of the independent Ombudsman institution and submitting a written report to the Permanent Council.*

3. Deployment

The Head of Mission and one Mission member started work in Dushanbe on 19 February 1994.

The Permanent Council Decision of 6 July 1995 (PC.DEC/59) provided for the opening of three branch offices, initially for a six-month period, in Kurgan-Turbe, Shartuz and Dusti. These branches opened officially on 1 October 1995.

The Permanent Council Decision of 5 June 1997 (PC.DEC/170) provided for the opening of two additional branch offices. The field office in Garm began operating in May 1998. A field office in Khujand began operating in February 2000.

In the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe, it was stated that:

- *The OSCE Centre in Dushanbe will have five field offices in Khujand, Kurgan-Tyube, Garm, Kulyab and Shartuz;*

4. Duration

Initially foreseen until the end of the first budget (30 June 1994). Subsequent prolongations of the mandate were decided at:

- 26th Permanent Committee Meeting, 30 June 1994:	until 31 July 1994;
- 28th Permanent Committee Meeting, 14 July 1994:	until 31 December 1994;
- 41st Permanent Committee Meeting, 14 November 1994:	until 30 June 1995;
- 23rd Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/47, 1 June 1995:	until 31 December 1995;
- 45th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/86, 16 November 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 74th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/126, 20 June 1996:	until 31 December 1996;
- 91st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/141, 7 November 1996:	until 30 June 1997;
- 119th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/171, 10 June 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/198, 27 November 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 173rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/235, 17 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 199th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/269, 19 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 236th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/301, 24 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/323, 2 December 1999:	until 30 June 2000;
- 288th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/361, 22 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/389,7 December 2000:	until 30 June 2001;
- 345th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/422, 28 June 2001:	until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/459, 21 December 2001:	until 30 June 2002[11];

[11] *The Permanent Council requests its Chairman to undertake consultations on the form of co-operation between the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan and the Tajik authorities and to report to the Permanent Council the results of these consultations by 31 May 2002.*

- 399th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/482, 27 June 2002:	until 31 October 2002[12];
- 418th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/500Corr1, 31 October 2002:	until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/580, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/649, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/703, 17 November 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC/DEC/754, 23 November 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- PC Meeting, PC/DEC/826, 13 December 2007:	until 30 June 2008.

The mandate of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe expired on 30 June 2008, and the OSCE Office in Tajikistan was established.

5. Composition

The original authorized strength of the Mission was 4 members. By a Permanent Council Decision of 6 July 1995, the authorized strength was temporarily increased to 7 members. The Unified OSCE Budget for 1996 assumed the strength of the Mission to be 8 members.

At its 118th Plenary Meeting on 5 June 1997 the Permanent Council approved the augmentation of the Mission by 3 international staff members, bringing the total authorized strength to 11. At its 314th Plenary Meeting on 14 December 2000 the Permanent Council approved the augmentation of the Mission by 4 international staff members (3 seconded and 1 contracted) and to bring the total authorized strength to 15. In 2002, PC.DEC/469 brought the authorized strength of the Mission to 16. In 2003, PC.DEC/590 increased the strength of the Mission to 17. In 2007, the total number of international staff was 17 while 70 staff members were locally recruited, numbering 87 altogether,

The last Head of Centre (from June 2007) was Ambassador Vladimir Pryakhin of the Russian Federation.

[12] *The Permanent Council requests its Chairman to undertake consultations on the form of co-operation between the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan and the Tajik authorities and to report to the Permanent Council the results of these consultations by 31 May 2002.*

The OSCE Mission to Georgia

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 2

Modalities:
14th Permanent Committee Meeting, 29 March 1994, Journal 14/Revised, Annex 1[13]
Permanent Council Decision No. 115, 24 April 1996 (PC.DEC/115)
Permanent Council Decision No. 334, 15 December 1999 (PC.DEC/334)
Permanent Council Decision No. 450, 13 December 2001 (PC.DEC/450)
Permanent Council Decision No. 523, 19 December 2002 (PC.DEC/523)
Permanent Council Decision No. 668, 14 April 2005 (PC.DEC/668)
Permanent Council Decision No. 861, 18 August 2008 (PC.DEC/861)

The mandate of the Mission to Georgia expired on 31 December 2008.

Military Monitoring Officers of the OSCE Mission to Georgia continued to operate in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia until 30 June 2009 under a separate mandate adopted by the Permanent Council under Decision No. 883 of 12 February 2009 (PC.DEC/883).

2. Tasks

According to the original Modalities and Financial Implications approved at the 18th CSO Meeting on 13 December 1992[14], the objective of the Mission was *to promote negotiations between the conflicting parties in Georgia which are aimed at reaching a peaceful political settlement*.

At the 14th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 29 March 1994, new Modalities were decided for an expanded CSCE Mission to Georgia, based on recommendations submitted by the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office in accordance with the Decisions of the Rome Council, which provided for a strengthening of the Mission. The original objective was complemented by a series of new objectives, namely to *promote respect for human rights and assist in democratic institution building throughout the country; to monitor and promote free media principles; to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned and, with their consent, to monitor the joint peacekeeping forces established under the Sochi Agreement of 24 June 1992, in order to assess whether their activities are carried out in conformity with CSCE principles, in particular those mentioned in chapter II, 3 of the Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting*.

The above objectives for the expanded Mission are specified in a mandate consisting of the following points:

1) In relation to the Georgian-Ossetian conflict:

[13] Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 1 April 1994, at 12 noon, without an objection.
[14] As adopted on a preliminary basis by the Consultative Committee on 23 November 1993.

- *facilitate the creation of a broader political framework, in which a lasting political settlement (...) can be achieved on the basis of CSCE principles and commitments*;

- *intensify discussions with all parties to the conflict, including through the organisation of round tables, in order to identify and seek to eliminate sources of tension and extend political reconciliation throughout the area of conflict*.

Make recommendations regarding the early convening of an international conference under CSCE auspices and with the participation of the United Nations, aimed at the resolution of the conflict, including the definition of the political status of Southern Ossetia;

- *in pursuit of the monitoring role concerning the joint peacekeeping forces, establish appropriate forms of contact with the military commanders of the forces within the overall context of the CSCE negotiating efforts, gather information on the military situation, investigate violations of the existing cease-fire and call local commanders' attention to possible political implications of specific military actions*;

- *be actively involved in the reconvened Joint Control Commission in order to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned*;

- *establish contact with local authorities and representatives of the population and maintain a visible CSCE presence throughout the area*.

2) In relation to the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict:

- *ensure liaison with the United Nations operations in Abkhazia, in order to follow events closely and report regularly to the CSCE, inter alia with a view to facilitating the participation of the representative of the Chairman-in-Office, at the invitation of the United Nations, to the negotiations carried out under United Nations auspices*.

3) In relation to Georgia as a whole:

- *promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and assist in the development of legal and democratic institutions and processes, including providing advice on the elaboration of a new constitution, the implementation of a legislation on citizenship and the establishment of an independent judiciary as well as monitoring elections*;

- *co-ordinate these activities with the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and the ODIHR and co-operate with the Council of Europe, keeping also in touch with other international organizations active in Georgia in this field*.

In addition, at the 262nd Plenary Meeting on 15 December 1999, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to expand the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Georgia to include a Border Monitoring Operation (BMO) (PC.DEC/334) *"in order to observe and report on movement across the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation, both by vehicle and on foot*". At the 373rd Plenary Meeting on 13 December 2001, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to expand the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Ingush Republic of the Russian Federation (PC.DEC/450). At the 427th Plenary Meeting on 19 December 2002, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to further expand the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Dagestan Republic of the Russian Federation (PC.DEC/523).

Also, at the 550th Plenary Meeting on 14 April 2005, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Training Assistance Programme (TAP) (PC.DEL/108/05/Rev.6) *"in order to support the Georgian border guards in strengthening their border-management capacities and capabilities".*

Furthermore, at the 642nd Plenary Meeting on 29 June 2006, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Capacity Building Programme (CBP) (PC.DEC/731) *in order to support the Georgian Border Police in the strengthening of their border management capabilities*.

Following the August 2008 conflict in Georgia at the 728th Plenary Meeting on 18 August 2008, the OSCE Permanent Council, "*striving to contribute to the full implementation of the six principles included in the agreement proposed by the French and Russian Presidents*" decided "*to increase for a minimum period of six calendar months the number of Military Monitoring Officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia by up to one hundred*" of whom "*twenty will be deployed immediately in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia"*, while "*the rest of the additional Military Monitoring Officers will be deployed subject to a new decision of the Permanent Council on the modalities of the Military Monitoring Officers"* (PC.DEC/861). At the 750th Plenary Meeting on 12 February 2009, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to extend until 30 June 2009 its Decision number 861 of 19 August 2008 (PC/DEC/883).

3. Deployment

The Mission started to work on 3 December 1992. The MoU with the Government of Georgia was signed on 23 January 1993, and the MoU with the leadership of the South Ossetian side was agreed by an exchange of letters on 1 March 1993.

The Mission operated throughout Georgia from the Headquarters established in Tbilisi. The Modalities of 29 March 1994 provided for a branch office in Tskhinvali, which became operational on 22 April 1997.

In 1997, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the OSCE and the *UN Human Rights Office in Abkhazia, Georgia* where one (at times two) OSCE officer was deployed. The MoU enabled the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the relevant parts of its mandate relating to the monitoring of the human rights situation in Abkhazia, while supporting the activities of the UN Human Rights Office in the region.

From 15 December 1999 until 31 December 2004 the Mission was also mandated to observe and report on movement across parts of the border between Georgia and the Russian Federation. While the area of operation of the Border Monitoring Mission (BMO) first only covered the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation, it was expanded in subsequent years also to the Ingush and Dagestan segments of the Georgian-Russian border. The BMO then operated from its Head Office in Tbilisi, a Forward Supply Point in Telavi, eight Patrol Bases in Sno, Shatili, Girevi, Omalo, Napareuli, Kvareli, Akhalsopeli and Kabali as well as one Permanent Patrol in Assa.

From 18 April 2005 until 30 June 2006, the Mission carried out a Training Assistance Programme providing training for the Georgian Border Guards at four OSCE training centres in Lilo, Kazbegi, Lagodekhi and Omalo.

Within the framework of the Capacity Building Programme, from 1 July 2006, the Mission carried out training for the Georgian Border Police. The Capacity Building Programme was successfully completed on 30 June 2007.

During the August 2008 conflict in Georgia, the Tskhinvali Field Office of the OSCE Mission to Georgia had to be evacuated. Subsequently, the Military Monitoring Officers conducted their monitoring activities from a forward monitoring base located in Karaleti.

4. Duration

The original Modalities provided for an initial operating period of 3 months. Subsequent prolongations of the Modalities were decided at:

- 19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993:	until 23 August 1993;
- 22nd CSO Meeting, 30 June 1993:	until 23 February 1994;
- 10th Permanent Committee Meeting, 24 February 1994:	until 4 March 1994;
- 25th CSO Meeting, 3 March 1994:	until 30 June 1994.

The new Modalities, decided at the 14th Permanent Committee Meeting on 29 March 1994, were valid until 30 September 1994. Further prolongations were agreed at:

- 34th Permanent Committee Meeting, 22 September 1994:	until 31 March 1995;
- 9th Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/18, 23 February 1995:	until 30 September 1995;
- 35th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/70, 14 September 1995:	until 30 June 1996;
- 70th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/122, 23 May 1996:	until 31 March 1997;
- 104th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/156, 6 March 1997:	until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/199, 27 November 1997:	until 30 June 1998;
- 173rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/234, 17 June 1998:	until 31 December 1998;
- 198th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/267, 13 November 1998:	until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/299, 17 June 1999:	until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/320, 2 December 1999	until 30 June 2000;
- 286th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/355, 8 June 2000:	until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/393, 7 December 2000:	until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/456 of 21 December 2001:	until 31 December 2002;
- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/522 of 19 December 2002:	until 31 December 2003;
- 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/575 of 11 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650 of 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005.

The modalities established for the Border Monitoring Operation were decided at:

- 262nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/334, 15 December 1999:	until 30 April 2000.

Subsequent prolongations of these modalities and geographical expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation were decided at:

- 279th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/346Corr1, 13 April 2000:	until 15 November 2000;
- 300th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/372, 21 September 2000:	until 15 April 2001;
- 329th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/406, 29 March 2001:	until 15 November 2001;
- 365th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/442/Corr.1, 2 November 2001:	until 31 December 2001;

- 373rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/450, 13 December 2001: until 31 December 2002, and expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Ingush Republic of the Russian Federation;
- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/523, 19 December 2002: until 30 June 2003, and expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Dagestan Republic of the Russian Federation;
- 456th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/546, 17 June 2003: until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/586, 18 December 2003: until 30 June 2004;
- 512th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/614/Corr.1, 29 June 2004: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650,16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/700, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/766, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/831, 21 December 2007: until 31 December 2008.

The modalities established for the Training Assistance Programme for Georgian Border Guards were decided at:

- 550th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/668, 14 April 2005: until 31 December 2005;
- 586th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/713, 22 December 2005: until 30 June 2006.

The modalities established for the Capacity Building Programme for the Georgian Border Police were decided at:

- 616th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/731, 29 June 2006: until 30 June 2007.

The Permanent Council adopted decision PC.DEC/883 on 12 February 2009, extending the mandate of the Military Monitoring Officers deployed in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia until 30 June 2009.

5. Composition

Originally, the authorized strength of the Mission was 8 members (including the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office). Subsequent increases of the number of international staff were authorized by the 19th Meeting of the CSO (4 February 1993), the 25th Meeting of the CSO (3 March 1994), the 14th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (29 March 1994), the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (27 April 1995), the 387th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (12 April 2002) and the 522nd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (6 August 2004).

The decision of the Permanent Council in December 1999 to establish the Border Monitoring Operation and its subsequent decisions to enhance the operational efficiency and the area of operation of the BMO led to a phased increase of the number of international personnel to 148 persons at the peak of the operation, all of whom left following the closure of the BMO.

The Mission had 30 international staff working under the Training Assistance Programme during 2005/2006.

After the establishment of the Capacity Building Programme in June 2006 and until its closure in June 2007 the Mission had up to 64 international staff, 26 of whom were working under the CBP.

In 2008, the Mission had a total of 183 staff members, of which 46 were international staff, and 137 were nationals.

Prior to the August 2008 conflict in Georgia, the number of Military Monitoring Officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia amounted to eight, of whom five were permanently deployed in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict. Following the August 2008 conflict, twenty additional Military Monitoring Officers were deployed. The twenty-eight Military Monitoring Officers operated in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia. On 12 February 2009 it was decided to extend the mandate of the additional twenty Military Monitoring Officers until 30 June 2009.

During its administrative closure, which lasted until 30 June 2009, a reduced number of staff members of the OSCE Mission to Georgia provided administrative and logistic support, as well as information and political guidance, to the Military Monitoring Officers.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Terhi Hakala of Finland.

The OSCE Office in Minsk

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
429th Meeting of the Permanent Council, 30 December 2002, Decision No. 526 (PC.DEC/526).

2. Tasks

The OSCE Office in Minsk was given the following tasks:

- *Assist the Belarusian Government in further promoting institution building, in further consolidating the Rule of Law and in developing relations with civil society, in accordance with OSCE principles and commitments;*

- *Assist the Belarusian Government in its efforts in developing economic and environmental activities;*

- *Monitor and report accurately on the above mentioned objectives.*

3. Deployment

The first Head of the Office started work in Minsk on 10 February 2003.

4. Duration

This mandate initially applied until 31 December 2003. The prolongation and any changes of the mandate were subject to a new decision of the OSCE Permanent Council, on an annual basis.

The mandate of the Office was prolonged at:

- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/589, 18 December 2003:	until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/655, 16 December 2004:	until 31 December 2005;
- 584th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/710, 15 December 2005:	until 31 December 2006;
- 644th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/775, 28 December 2006:	until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/837, 27 December 2007:	until 31 December 2008;
- 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/874, 27 November 2008:	until 31 December 2009;
- 788th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/925, 31 December 2009:	until 31 December 2010.

The mandate of the Office in Minsk expired on 31 December 2010.

5. Composition

The OSCE Office in Minsk was staffed by a Head of Office assisted by a team of experts. The total number of staff in its final year of operation was 13, which comprised 5 internationals and 8 nationals.

The Head of Office (from 15 January 2010 until 31 December 2010) was Ambassador Benedikt Haller of Germany.

The OSCE Office in Zagreb

1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:
The OSCE Office in Zagreb was established by Permanent Council Decision No. 836 of 21 December 2007, replacing the OSCE Mission to Croatia.

The OSCE Office in Zagreb was closed by Permanent Council Decision No. PC.DEC/1026 of 15 December 2011.

2. Tasks

In line with the PC Decision No. 836 adopted on 21 December 2007 the Office is tasked to:

- monitor the proceedings related to cases referred to Croatia pursuant to Rule 11 *bis* of the ICTY's Rules of Procedure and Evidence on behalf of the OSCE as well as on behalf of the Prosecutor of ICTY, in line with the PC Decision no. 673 dated 19 May 2005. The Office will also monitor, as part of the national proceedings followed, all other cases involving ICTY transfers including so-called "Category II" cases as well as all domestic war crimes proceedings initiated at the local level;

- report on the residual aspects of the implementation of the housing programmes in Croatia.

3. Deployment

The Office started working on 1 January 2008, with headquarters in Zagreb.

4. Duration

On 16 December 2010, the Mission's mandate was extended by the Permanent Council until 31 December 2011. On 15 December, the 56 OSCE participating States agreed that the Office in Zagreb had successfully fulfilled its mandate, and the Permanent Council adopted a decision (PC.DEC/1026) to close the OSCE field presence in Croatia after 15 years of work in the host country.

5. Composition

The last appointed Head of the Office was Ambassador Jose-Enrique Horcajada of Spain. In 2011, the Office had 3 international and 16 national staff members.