



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Ministerial Council
Helsinki 2008**

MC.DEC/10/08
5 December 2008

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Second day of the Sixteenth Meeting
MC(16) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

**DECISION No. 10/08
FURTHER PROMOTING THE OSCE'S ACTION
IN COUNTERING TERRORISM**

The Ministerial Council,

Re-emphasizing the OSCE participating States' determination to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, as a crime that has no justification, whatever its motivation or origin, and to conduct this fight with respect for the rule of law and in accordance with their obligations under international law, in particular international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law,

Reaffirming the existing OSCE counter-terrorism commitments and the intention to maintain counter-terrorism activities among the priorities of the OSCE,

Reaffirming the OSCE participating States' support for the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy,

Welcoming the G8 Leaders' Statement on Counter-Terrorism adopted on 9 July 2008 at the Hokkaido Toyako Summit,

Reiterating the need to address conditions that may foster and sustain terrorism, in particular by fully respecting democracy and the rule of law, by allowing all citizens to participate fully in political life, by preventing discrimination and encouraging intercultural and inter-religious dialogue in their societies, by engaging civil society in finding common political settlement for conflicts, by promoting human rights and tolerance and by combating poverty,

Recalling, *inter alia*, the Sofia Ministerial Statement on Preventing and Combating Terrorism (2004), the Brussels Ministerial Statement on Supporting and Promoting the International Legal Framework against Terrorism (MC.DOC/5/06) and the Madrid Ministerial Statement on Supporting the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (MC.DOC/3/07),

Recalling the Madrid Ministerial Council Decision No. 5/07 on Public-Private Partnerships in Countering Terrorism and the Madrid Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/07 on Protecting Critical Energy Infrastructure from Terrorist Attack,

Taking note of the Follow-up OSCE Public-Private Partnership Conference: Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the Business Community in Combating Terrorism, organized in Vienna on 15 and 16 September 2008, which contributed to identifying possible areas for further co-operation in the field of public-private partnerships in countering terrorism,

Taking note of the Workshop on Preventing Violent Extremism and Radicalization that Lead to Terrorism, held on 24 October 2008 in Vienna which identified a need for better understanding of the phenomena and for multi-dimensional responses,

Taking note of the Workshop on Enhancing Legal Co-operation in Criminal Matters related to Terrorism, held on 1 and 2 April 2008 in Ankara, Turkey, which underlined the need to enhance co-operation in this regard,

Taking note also of the 2008 OSCE Sub-Regional Central Asian Public Private Partnership Conference, held on 4 and 5 November 2008 in Bishkek, Kyrgyz Republic, which showed the importance of the development of public-private partnerships for countering terrorism at the regional and subregional level,

Taking note of the review carried out in the UN system of the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, which provides guidance for the OSCE's counter-terrorism activities, and its contribution to invigorating global counter-terrorism efforts,

1. Calls upon the participating States and the OSCE executive structures to continue their efforts aimed at actively contributing to the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and other UN counter-terrorism documents;
2. Calls upon the participating States to continue promoting public-private partnerships with civil society, media, the business community and industry in countering terrorism, including through the dissemination of lessons learned and exchange of relevant information and national best practices both at the OSCE and national, subregional and regional levels, where appropriate;
3. Tasks the Secretary General and relevant OSCE executive structures to support the organization in 2009 of expert-level seminars, workshops and simulations, within available resources, that would encourage public-private partnership initiatives in such areas as co-operating with civil society and the media in countering terrorism, promoting intercultural and interreligious dialogue in countering terrorism, protecting non-nuclear critical energy infrastructure from terrorist attacks, and combating the financing of terrorism and money laundering, especially with regard to the implementation of the Financial Action Task Force's (FATF) Special Recommendations on Terrorist Financing;
4. Calls upon the OSCE participating States to make use of the OSCE executive structures in countering violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism in their respective countries. To this end, participating States are encouraged to continue to exchange ideas and national best practices about their strategies and measures to counter violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism as well as to enhance their co-operation with media, the business community, industry and civil society;

5. Tasks the Secretary General, in consultation with relevant OSCE executive structures, to prepare a report, within existing resources, on their counter-terrorism activities. The report should reflect existing mandates and OSCE commitments in the counter-terrorism area and should assess OSCE counter-terrorism activities, taking into account OSCE capacities and resources, and be submitted to participating States by 1 April 2009 for further discussion in relevant bodies. Thereafter, as provided for in MC(10).DEC/3, the participating States will review implementation of OSCE commitments in combating terrorism at the 2009 Annual Security Review Conference;
6. Encourages the Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily implement the provisions of this decision and invites them to participate in the activities to be carried out in the framework of this decision.

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**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Georgia:

“While it has joined the consensus on the Ministerial Council decision on Further Promoting the OSCE’s Action in Countering Terrorism, Georgia regrets the fact that, during the Ministerial Council meeting in Helsinki, the participating States were not able to reach consensus on appropriately addressing the issue of existing unresolved conflicts and territories lacking legitimate governance within the OSCE area. Absence of the rule of law, democracy, respect for human rights, lack of transparency at both national and international levels and growing trends of violent extremism and radicalisation in some of those territories provide favourable conditions for spreading of international terrorism. Therefore, adequate reflection of this issue in the Ministerial Council decision would be utmost essential for ensuring full and effective implementation of all OSCE counter-terrorism commitments.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision adopted and be included in the journal of today’s meeting.”