
Netherlands Chairmanship**472nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 30 October 2003

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 1.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. J. de Visser
Mr. K. Vosskübler

3. Subjects discussed — Statements — Decisions:

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *Death penalty in the United States of America*: Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1258/03), Norway, United States of America

(b) *Situation in Belarus*: Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1261/03), Belarus (PC.DEL/1266/03 Restr.), Chairperson

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE ODIHR ON THE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Director of the ODIHR (ODIHR.GAL/72/03 Restr.), Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1260/03), United States of America, Switzerland, Bulgaria (PC.DEL/1257/03), Norway (PC.DEL/1265/03), Turkey (PC.DEL/1263/03), Canada, Russian Federation, Moldova (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Ukraine), Armenia,

Turkmenistan, Azerbaijan, Belarus (PC.DEL/1267/03 Restr.), Serbia and Montenegro, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: OSCE CENTRE IN DUSHANBE

Head of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe (PC.FR/29/03 Restr.), Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1259/03), United States of America (PC.DEL/1268/03), Russian Federation, Switzerland, Norway (PC.DEL/1262/03), Canada, Tajikistan, Chairperson

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE ELEVENTH MEETING OF THE OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 563 (PC.DEC/563), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the timetable and organizational modalities of the Eleventh Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council.

Romania

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR 2002

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 564 (PC.DEC/564), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the audited Financial Statements for 2002.

Agenda item 6: SUCCESSOR TO MR. FREIMUT DUVE AS OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Chairperson (PC.DEL/1264/03/Corr.1 Restr.), Switzerland

Agenda item 7: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

Visit of the Personal Envoy of the Chairman-in-Office for participating States in Central Asia, Mr. M. Ahtisaari, to Central Asia: Chairperson

Agenda item 8: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

(a) *Security issues:* Secretary General (SEC.GAL/193/03 Restr.)

- (b) *Provident Fund harmonization*: Secretary General

Agenda item 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Adoption of Ministerial Council Decision No. 1/03 (MC.DEC/1/03) on the Annual Report*: Chairperson

The Chairperson announced that the Ministerial Council had adopted, through the silence procedure, Decision No. 1/03 (MC.DEC/1/03) on the Annual Report, the text of which, together with the announcing letter of the Chairman-in-Office, is appended to this Journal as an annex.

- (b) *Informal seminar on terrorism and conflict, to be held in Vienna on 11 November 2003*: Sweden
- (c) *Ratification of the United Nations conventions on terrorism by Liechtenstein*: Liechtenstein
- (d) *Appointment of the Co-Chairperson of the informal Working Group on Gender Equality and Anti-Trafficking in Human Beings*: Chairperson
- (e) *Organizational matters*: Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Friday, 31 October 2003, at 3 p.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/472
30 October 2003
Annex

Original: ENGLISH

472nd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 472, Agenda item 9(a)

LETTER OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

To the Ministers of Foreign Affairs
of the OSCE participating States

The Hague, 29 October 2003

Dear Colleague,

In my capacity as Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE, I have the honour of informing you that the silence procedure for the draft decision on the Annual Report was not broken.

The decision is therefore effective as of 5 p.m. CET, 24 October 2003 and will be attached to the Journal of the First Day of the Eleventh Meeting of the Ministerial Council.

Yours sincerely,

[signature]

Jaap de Hoop Scheffer
Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands

PC.JOUR/472
30 October 2003
Annex
Attachment



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

MC.DEC/1/03
24 October 2003

Original: ENGLISH

DECISION No. 1/03 THE ANNUAL REPORT

The Ministerial Council,

Recalling the reporting requirements as set out in the summary conclusions of the Stockholm Ministerial Council Meeting of 1992, Annex 1, Paragraph 5 (V); Charter for European Security adopted at the Istanbul Summit, the Platform for Co-operative Security, Chapter II, paragraph 8; 2001 Bucharest Ministerial Council Meeting Decision MC (9).DEC/9; and PC.DEC/495 of 5 September 2002,

Bearing in mind the need for a comprehensive overview of the activities of the OSCE in the previous calendar year, serving as a central reference document for participating States as well as a key information source for the general public and interested organizations,

Recognizing the need for increased visibility, transparency and accountability of the OSCE and its activities,

Decides as follows:

1. The Secretary General will co-ordinate the preparation and submission of an Annual Report on OSCE activities and achievements during the previous calendar year in close consultation with the Chairmanship-in-Office of the reporting period, as early as possible and not later than on 31 March of each year. It should present an assessment of progress towards achieving the goals and tasks set forth by participating States through the decision-making bodies.
2. The Annual Report should encompass all the activities of the OSCE, including that of the Chairmanship-in-Office, the Permanent Council, the Forum for Security Co-operation, and the Secretariat, institutions and field presences.
3. The Annual Report should be a concise, unbiased, factual and thematic account of OSCE activities. It is not an official record of the activities of the OSCE and therefore it will not be considered a consensus document. Not requiring a formal approval by a decision, an

advance copy of the Annual Report will be presented to the Preparatory Committee four weeks prior to its publication.

4. The Annual Report will draw on, *inter alia*, the internal reports and documents prepared and submitted by the Secretary General, including the annual report on Programme and Unified Budget Performance, as well as the Financial Statements for the OSCE. A repetition of regular activity reports should be avoided.

5. The Annual Report will contain the sections set out below, each prepared under the authority of the relevant contributor. The Secretary General will advise contributors on the format of their contributions and set editorial guidelines. Contributions will be subject to editing, on which the contributors will be consulted. The order of sections may change to reflect the development of OSCE activities. Sections (b), (c) and (d) should, *inter alia*, contain information on financial, administrative and personnel matters.

(a) Report of the Chairmanship-in-Office

This will contain a summary of the Chairmanship's priorities and activities together with an assessment of the results, in accordance with the relevant provisions of PC Decision No. 485, including specific issues dealt with during the Chairmanship. It will also contain an account of the work of the Permanent Council and references to the activities of the CiO's Personal Representatives. Chairpersons of the Contact Group with the Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation will also prepare short reports of the activities of these fora. These reports will be annexed to the Chairmanship report.

(b) Report of the Secretary General

This will contain information on the activities of the Secretary General and the various units of the Secretariat. It will include, as a separate chapter, a report on the results of interaction between organizations and institutions in the OSCE area, as requested in the Charter for European Security adopted at the Istanbul Summit, the Platform for Co-operative Security, and a report on interaction with Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation.

(c) Reports of OSCE institutions

These will comprise reports from heads of OSCE institutions on activities carried out under their respective mandates. The Ministerial Council would also welcome the inclusion of a report by the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

(d) Reports by OSCE missions

These will comprise reports from heads of OSCE missions and field presences on activities carried out under their respective mandates.

(e) Report of the Forum for Security Co-operation

This should include, *inter alia*, information on the interaction with the Permanent Council, prepared in consultation with the Chairmanship-in-Office.

(f) Thematic overview

This will contain a problem-oriented, cross-dimensional and cross-institutional account of OSCE activities.

(g) Additional sections on an ad hoc basis on specific events, if needed.