

**241st Plenary Meeting**

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**DECISION No. 314**

The Permanent Council,

Welcoming the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Armenia to intensify OSCE activities in that country, decides:

1. To establish, during the second half of 1999, an OSCE Office in Yerevan, which will perform the following tasks:
  - Promote the implementation of 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.
2. The OSCE Office in Yerevan will begin operating during the second half of 1999. Its initial period of duration will be until 31 December 1999, with a possibility of prolongation for periods of twelve months by mutual agreement between the OSCE and the Republic of Armenia.
3. Furthermore, the Permanent Council:
  - (a) Envisages that the OSCE Office in Yerevan will be led by a Head of Office assisted by a team of up to five experts seconded by OSCE participating States.

- (b) Recalling its Decision No. 182 of 17 July 1997 concerning the establishment and related modalities of a Contingency Fund, as well as taking note of the cost estimate for the activities of the OSCE Office in Yerevan in 1999, and pending the early adoption of a budget for the Office, which will be financed within current financial possibilities, in accordance with the established procedures,
- authorizes the release of EUR 203,309 from the Contingency Fund in order to finance the initial activities of the Office on an interim basis.