

153rd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 153, Agenda item 2

DECISION No. 216

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with Decision No. 3 of the Copenhagen Ministerial Council,

Decides:

- To establish under its auspices an informal open-ended Group of Experts that, working in close co-operation with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary General, will study possible ways of further enhancing the Secretariat's operational capacities in the light of current developments in the OSCE's activities and reflecting the Organization's tasks as summarized in paragraph 5 of the Lisbon Summit Declaration;
- To apply, in organizing the work of the informal open-ended Group of Experts, the following modalities:
 - The Chairman-in-Office will, after appropriate consultations, designate a person of relevant experience and authority to serve as Chairman of the Group of Experts;
 - The Group of Experts will be Vienna-based and comprise representatives of the participating States; the Secretary General and/or his representatives will be fully associated with the work of the Group;
 - The Chairman of the Group of Experts will organize its work drawing on the required administrative support and relevant assistance of the Secretariat, calling for such outside advice and expertise as the Group may require and taking into account that no financial provision for the work of the Group is contained in the OSCE budget;
 - The Chairman of the Group of Experts will, on a regular basis, report to the Chairman-in-Office and, through him, to the Permanent Council.
- To task the informal open-ended Group of Experts with submitting to the Permanent Council, through the Chairman-in-Office, its findings and related proposals so as to meet the requirements of the time scale foreseen at Copenhagen.