



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

PC.DEC/854  
19 June 2008

Original: ENGLISH

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**717th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 7

**DECISION No. 854  
RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT THE  
OSCE SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the decision of the Third Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Stockholm in 1992 to establish the post of Secretary General and Ministerial Council Decision No. 15/04 of 7 December 2004 (MC.DEC/15/04) on the role of the OSCE Secretary General,

Further recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 1/05 of 10 June 2005 (MC.DEC/1/05) on the appointment of Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as Secretary General of the OSCE and considering that his first term of office expires on 20 June 2008,

1. Requests the Chairperson of the Permanent Council to transmit to the Chairman-in-Office the draft Ministerial Council decision on the reappointment of the OSCE Secretary General, as contained in document MC.DD/2/08 of 9 June 2008;
2. Recommends that the Ministerial Council adopt that decision through a silence procedure with the period of silence expiring on Wednesday, 25 June 2008, at noon CET.

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Attachment 1

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

By the delegation of Finland:

“The Finnish Chairmanship considers the decision to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General of utmost importance. The reappointment of the Secretary General for three years strengthens the OSCE’s capacity to act by providing continuity and facilitating long-term planning, the importance of which was emphasized at the recent Informal Quintet Ministerial Meeting.

The Finnish Chairmanship will as soon as possible initiate consultations with the participating States on the rule governing the reappointment of the Secretary General, with a view to extending it to three years.

It is our understanding that there is wide support among the participating States to extend the period of reappointment of the Secretary General. The Chairmanship will take this issue forward on the basis of this emerging consensus.

The Chairmanship reaffirms that the present reappointment is made without setting a precedent and that the OSCE rules governing the periods of service of the OSCE staff will be respected without exceptions. Let me thank all the participating States for showing flexibility in this matter.

Thank you very much.”

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

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“The delegation of Ukraine has joined the consensus on the decision on the recommendation to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General. We warmly welcome and support the forthcoming reappointment of Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as Secretary General by the OSCE Ministerial Council. We are pleased that the efficient and dedicated work of Mr. Brichambaut as OSCE Secretary General during his first term of office receives strong support from the OSCE participating States. Ukraine looks forward to the strengthened co-operation with the Secretary General during his next tenure.

The decision to be adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council on the reappointment of the OSCE Secretary General for a period of three years represents another exception to the existing rules governing the appointment of the Secretary General. The delegation of Ukraine reaffirms its long-standing position that this should not set a precedent for the future, and that the OSCE rules governing the periods of service of OSCE staff should be respected without exception. We will continue to adhere vigorously to this principle and will seek to ensure that it is applied consistently in the work of the Organization.

In this context, Ukraine welcomes the intention just expressed by the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship to initiate, as soon as possible, consultations with the participating States on the rule governing the reappointment of the Secretary General. It is our understanding that any decision to be taken in this regard will establish a firm rule, which should be strictly followed in the work of the Organization.

I would like to request that this interpretative statement be attached to the text of the decision as well as to the journal of the day.”