

**202nd Plenary Meeting**

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**DECISION No. 281**

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs (21) to (32), of the Helsinki Document 1992, and

Recalling its Decision No. 262/Corr. of 22 October 1998,

The Permanent Council decides that,

1. Within the framework of the overall theme, “Security aspects in the field of the environment”, and taking into account the role of the OSCE in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, the Seventh Meeting of the Economic Forum will concentrate on the following main subjects:
  - (a) Energy and the environment: security and the importance of sustainable energy development; institutional and legal settings, including the implementation of international conventions and instruments;
  - (b) Security aspects of shared water resources and regional co-operation, taking into account the different institutional and legal settings, including implementation of international conventions and instruments;
  - (c) Public participation: the role of civil society; NGOs and the business sector in achieving sustainable development; the involvement of the OSCE.
2. Moreover, taking into account its mandate, the Economic Forum will:
  - (a) Substantively review the implementation of commitments in the economic dimension;
  - (b) Review the seminars held under the economic dimension since the last Economic Forum;
  - (c) Adopt a tentative programme for economic dimension seminars to be held in 1999/2000.
3. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level by officials responsible for shaping international economic policy in the OSCE area, as well as to include representatives from the private sector in their delegations.
4. As in previous years, the format of the Economic Forum should foresee the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions.

5. The following international organizations are invited to participate in and contribute to the 1999 Economic Forum: Council of Europe, Energy Charter Secretariat, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Environmental Agency, European Investment Bank, Global Environment Facility, International Atomic Energy Agency, International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Energy Agency, International Monetary Fund, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, United Nations Department for Co-ordination and Sustainable Development, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change, United Nations Industrial Development Organization, World Trade Organization and other relevant organizations.
6. The partners for co-operation (Japan and the Republic of Korea) and the Mediterranean partners for co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) are invited to attend the meeting.
7. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings may also be invited, as appropriate, to attend the Seventh Meeting of the Economic Forum.
8. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs (15) and (16), of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations having relevant experience in the area under discussion are free, after registering with the OSCE Secretariat, to attend and contribute to the meeting.
9. The Chairman of the Forum will present his/her summary conclusions from the discussions at the end of the meeting.