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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE (8 June – 15 June)

De Brichambaut Appointed OSCE Secretary General

VIENNA/LJUBLJANA - The OSCE appointed Ambassador Marc Perrin de Brichambaut, a senior French diplomat, as the Secretary General for a three-year term on 10 June. He succeeds Jan Kubis of Slovakia, who is leaving after completing his second three-year term. De Brichambaut's appointment takes effect on June 21. OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel congratulated the new Secretary General on his appointment, noting that he takes over at a challenging time when the Organization is undergoing intensive discussions about its future. He said the Slovenian Chairmanship was devoting considerable energy on the reform of the OSCE and hoped the 55 participating States would reach consensus on the way ahead for the security organization in the second half of this year. "I'm confident that the input of Secretary General-designate de Brichambaut will be a significant contribution to the reform process and that he will help to ensure that the OSCE remains dynamic and effective," Rupel said.

Rupel and Moratinos for Substantive Action Against Intolerance

CORDOBA - A two-day OSCE conference on combating anti-Semitism and other forms of intolerance was held in the Spanish city of Cordoba on June 8-9. The conference was opened with appeals by OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel and Spanish Foreign Minister Miguel Angel Moratinos for substantive action to implement OSCE commitments. Rupel said, the main responsibility lays with the OSCE's 55 participating states. "They must have effective legislation, enforce laws, and speak out against racism, xenophobia and discrimination," he said. "The ultimate test will be whether or not communities at risk feel safer, if potential perpetrators of hate crimes are deterred by the full force of the law, and if the message 'Zero tolerance for intolerance' truly takes root in our societies." Minister Moratinos warned against creating a hierarchy of intolerance and discrimination. "All forms of intolerance and discrimination are to be condemned as assaults on the principle of the equality of all human beings," he said. The first day of the Cordoba conference focused on anti-Semitism; on the second day, delegates examined the growing phenomenon of Islamophobia, as well as problems faced by Christians and other religious communities in different societies.

Rupel Praises Role of NGOs in Promoting Tolerance

SEVILLE - Non-governmental organizations play a vital role in providing support for the OSCE's efforts to combat discrimination and promote tolerance, the OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel, said on 7 June in Seville. Addressing a preparatory forum ahead of the OSCE conference on combating intolerance in Cordoba, he said the knowledge, expertise and enthusiasm of civil society were highly valued. "We all know that with the active participation of civil society - your ideas, your observations, your proposals and your constructive criticisms - you directly contribute to the quality and richness of discussion held at OSCE conferences and meetings," he told NGOs.

Ambassador Frlec Attends OSCE Conference on Judicial Cooperation in War Crimes Proceedings

BRIJUNI - The OSCE hosted a conference of justice ministers from Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia-Montenegro on inter-state judicial cooperation in war crimes proceedings on 8 June in the Croatian seaside resort of Brijuni. The participants identified a number of activities to ensure the fair and impartial prosecution of war crimes and end impunity for perpetrators. The head of the OSCE Task force of the Slovenian Chairmanship, Ambassador Boris Frlec said the conference was particularly timely as it followed the first decision by the International Criminal Tribunal for the

former Yugoslavia (ICTY) to transfer an indictment to a domestic court. Among the issues, the ministers discussed measures to facilitate direct co-operation between judiciaries by ensuring full use of existing mechanisms and the setting up of an appropriate legislative framework.

Chairman-in-Office appointed new OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

LJUBLJANA/VIENNA: Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel appointed Mr James F. Schumaker as OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, effective 15 June 2005. Mr Schumaker is a highly skilled retired United States diplomat, with vast bilateral and multilateral diplomatic experience and knowledge of the region.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

GARMISCH-PARTENKIRCHEN, 15 June - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to deliver a lecture at the George C. Marshall Centre for Strategic Studies.

VIENNA, 21 & 22 June - The OSCE Annual Security Review Conference is to be held. OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel will attend the event.