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Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

ENERGY SECURITY
IN THE WORK OF THE
OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

ANNUAL SESSIONS

ANNUAL SESSION VILNIUS 2009

RESOLUTION ON ENERGY SECURITY

1. Recognizing mutual interdependence in the field of energy and the need for common actions enhancing **security of energy supply** and responding to potential crises,
2. Emphasizing the importance to **energy security** of diversification of energy supply sources, markets and transit routes,
4. Acknowledging that **renewable energy is a key element in the supply of sustainable energy** and has major implications for the fight against climate change and the reduction of carbon emissions,
5. Stressing the **need for common rules in the field of international energy co operation**,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

6. Emphasizes the need for strengthening co-operation and balancing the interests of energy producers, consumers and transit countries with the aim of promoting market-based principles in the global energy dialogue;
7. Underlines that **international energy dialogue** should be based on the principles of transparency, mutual confidence, reciprocity, non-discrimination and freedom of access to transit routes as provided in the Energy Charter Treaty;
12. Calls for an increase in the share in the **energy mix of climate friendly energy, including nuclear energy, renewable and energy efficiency, with the aim of reducing global energy security risks, fighting climate change and diminishing dependency on depleting fossil fuels;**

RESOLUTION ON ENERGY CO-OPERATION

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

10. Recommends that the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the OSCE field missions carry out activities which promote **a change of culture** in the OSCE towards a global energy transformation and which support the work carried out by civil society and the independent media in this area;
11. Recommends that an OSCE conference be held, bringing together participating States and civil society stakeholders to assess progress and challenges on the path to an energy transformation and to compile best practices on the provision of information and education about **renewable energies, energy efficiency and energy saving.**

ANNUAL SESSION ASTANA 2008

Chapter II Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

29. Bearing in mind the importance of boosting **the use of renewable energy sources**,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

41. Appeals for encouragement to be given to research and the development of technologies that are less carbon-intensive and improve **energy efficiency**;

42. Encourages participating States to develop alternatives to fossil fuels, in particular by promoting **renewable energy sources**;

43. Calls on participating States to commit themselves to a **global energy transformation** towards energy efficiency, renewable energies and energy savings;

45. Recommends an exchange of views on the **national energy strategies** of participating States through the holding of conferences;

47. Invites participating States to launch new housing programmes, with emphasis on heating or air-conditioning by **means of clean energy sources and improving the energy efficiency of homes**;

58. Encourages all participating States to co-operate in transferring technical know-how on the use of renewable energy resources, such as geothermal and tidal power, and also on energy research and development, including the **mapping of energy potential and planning**, on the basis of the precautionary principle.

ANNUAL SESSION KYIV 2007

Chapter I Political Affairs and Security

1. Stressing that **access to sustainable, competitive and reliable energy is fundamental to the daily lives of all citizens in the OSCE area and to the stability and security of our societies**,

2. Emphasizing that energy security is one of the key elements of contemporary global security and is not merely an intergovernmental but a truly transnational issue,

3. Recalling the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted at the Maastricht Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2003,

4. Stressing the **potential of the OSCE, on account of its wide membership, to contribute significantly to promoting global energy security** by fostering a cooperative dialogue between producing, consuming and transit participating States, and recalling, in this respect, the OSCE

Decision on Energy Security Dialogue in the OSCE adopted at the Brussels Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2006,

5. Recognizing that international parliamentary institutions, especially the OSCE PA, play a decisive role in defining energy policies,

6. Recalling the provisions regarding energy security in the Brussels Declaration adopted at the Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly in 2006,

7. Supporting the Gleneagles Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Development adopted at the G8 summit in 2005 and the St. Petersburg Plan of Action on Global Energy Security adopted at the G8 summit in 2006,

8. Stressing the need further to promote the use of renewable energy sources and welcoming, in this respect, the target set by the European Union to increase the use of renewable energy, as a proportion of its overall energy consumption, to 12% by 2010 and to 20% by 2020,

9. Noting the European Commission's Green Paper on A European Strategy for Sustainable, Competitive and Secure Energy issued in 2006,

10. Bearing in mind the importance of boosting the use of renewable energy sources,

11. Noting Resolution 1531 (2007) on the Peril of Using Energy Supply as an Instrument of Political Pressure adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in 2007,

12. Acknowledging that the increasing energy interdependence between producing, consuming and transit countries needs to be addressed through cooperative dialogue enabling them to benefit fully from this interdependence and further to promote global energy security with due regard for the interests of all stakeholders,

13. Reaffirming that ensuring a just balance between supply, demand in world markets for natural resources and their transportation remains one of the prerequisites for preventing possible tensions between States,

14. Expressing full support for the work of the OSCE Co-ordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities,

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

15. Emphasizes that the OSCE has a comprehensive normative and organizational framework for promoting regional and global cooperation in energy security by raising awareness of challenges in this field and complementing relevant efforts of other stakeholders;

16. Strongly encourages participating States to implement their OSCE commitments and fulfill tasks regarding energy security and, to this end, to favor all initiatives aimed at enhancing energy security and continuous fostering of energy security dialogue, including in the OSCE area;

17. Urges all OSCE participating States to sign and ratify the Energy Charter Treaty if they have not yet done so;

18. Urges all OSCE participating States to commit themselves to successful completion of the Energy Charter Treaty Transit Protocol;

19. Welcomes the OSCE's support for the European Commission's efforts in strengthening cooperation and seeking a geographical diversification of energy supply;

20. Strongly **rejects any attempts by OSCE participating States to use energy issues as a tool of political pressure;**

21. Urges all OSCE participating States to observe market economy principles (fair competition, transparency and non-discriminatory transit) in the energy sector;

22. Welcomes an active role for the OSCE and its institutions in ensuring fair competition, transparency and **non-discrimination in the energy field for the sake of the energy security** of the OSCE participating States;

23. Urges OSCE participating States to do more to develop measures aimed at increasing energy saving and efficiency in households, industry, transport and services;

24. Invites **OSCE PA participating States to particularly promote dialogue, inter alia by holding OSCE events at the political and expert levels, on the following key issues of international energy security:**

- a. confidence building between energy producing, consuming and transit countries;
- b. creating new, and improving existing, mechanisms for implementation of commitments and obligations regarding energy security;
- c. strengthening the international legal framework on energy issues;
- d. improving national energy policies and legislation;
- e. strengthening capacities of competent national authorities;
- f. facilitating investment in the energy sector;
- g. diversifying energy sources;
- h. ensuring the safety of energy routes and critical energy infrastructure;
- i. introducing energy-saving technologies;
- j. developing alternative and renewable energy sources;
- k. ensuring environmentally friendly oil, gas and coal extraction, preservation and transportation;
- l. making the use of energy resources more efficient;
- m. overcoming the consequences of the Chernobyl accident;

25. Urges OSCE participating States to further the use of renewable energy in their national energy markets and urges participating States to limit their greenhouse gas emissions in order to combat global warming;
26. Recommends that participating States sign and ratify the Kyoto Protocol;
27. Stresses the duty to cooperate, inform and consult among all potentially affected countries when planning and constructing international energy pipelines and installations;
28. Emphasizes **the importance, for participating States, of introducing mechanisms for responding to crisis situations and supply difficulties;**
29. Welcomes active involvement of the OSCE field operations in providing the participating States, upon their request, with all necessary assistance on issues of energy security;
30. Urges action by the OSCE participating States to develop an effective energy crisis management system and to implement their international commitments;
31. Welcomes the **initiatives for the creation of new alternative routes for the transfer of energy in the European market;**
32. Encourages the coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to submit an official report once a year to the Ministerial Council on progress made in implementing the Gleneagles Plan of Action on Climate Change, Clean Energy and Sustainable Energy adopted at the G8 summit in 2005 and the St. Petersburg Plan of Action on Global Energy Security adopted at the G8 summit in 2006.

ANNUAL SESSION BRUSSELS 2006

Chapter II Economic Affairs, Science, Technology

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

53. Reaffirming that energy security is linked to a safe, predictable and reliable energy supply,
54. Welcoming **initiatives for dialogue and cooperation in energy matters**, such as the energy partnership between the European Union and the Russian Federation, and the elaboration of a Green Paper by the European Commission and the signing of the Treaty establishing the Energy Community (Athens, 25 October 2005),
55. Supporting the **initiative taken by the Chairman-in-Office, Mr Karel de Gucht, to hold a conference on energy security,**
56. Recognizing, on the twentieth anniversary of the accident at the Chernobyl nuclear plant, that the effects of its dramatic aftermath continue to be felt throughout Europe,

In the field of energy:

66. Urges the participating States to foster cooperation on energy and dialogue between supplier and consumer countries, while supporting the Energy Charter Treaty;

67. Underlines the fact that **energy security depends on a reliable supply, unimpeded transit and the safe transport of natural resources and should be based on and encompass mutual interests of suppliers and consumers;**

68. Strongly urges the participating States to favor free and open trade, in particular in the energy sector;

69. Recommends that the participating States sign long-term contracts for their energy supplies;

70. Underlines **the importance of energy infrastructure development in the OSCE area with respect to environmental threats in areas designated as particularly sensitive, as well as to energy security interests of other participating States;**

72. Underlines **the need to reconcile the imperatives of economic growth and energy security** with protection of the environment;

73. Strongly urges the participating States to attach great importance to development and broader **utilization of environmentally friendly, alternative and renewable energy sources**, while encouraging consumers to save energy;

75. Recommends that the parliaments of participating States work towards the signing and **ratification of the Kyoto Protocol;**

ANNUAL SESSION WASHINGTON 2005

Chapter II Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

29. Noting that the strengthening of integration processes in Europe widen the possibilities for the movement of capital and people, and cooperation in vitally important areas such as transport, trade, **investment and energy,**

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly:

36. Urges **parliamentarians of the OSCE participating states to strengthen their cooperation in combating new economic and environmental threats and challenges to security** in the spirit of the Helsinki Final Act;

OTHER MEETINGS

Fall Meetings in Toronto 2008

During the Mediterranean Forum, Gilles Mentré, Representative of the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, introduced a French proposal intended to further develop the EU's Euromediterranean Partnership called the Union for the Mediterranean. The initiative unites all EU members with several non-EU countries that border the Mediterranean Sea, promoting co-operation on **energy issues**, security, immigration and trade, as well as fighting corruption, terrorism, organized crime and human trafficking.

Fall Meetings in Portoroz 2007

The parliamentary conference, organized within the Parliamentary Troika of the Stability Pact for Southeastern Europe, focused on 'Security through Co-operation in South East Europe: The Role of Parliamentarians'. The Conference also included a session (Session III) on **Regional Co-operation in Energy Security**.

The OSCE PA Special Representative for South East Europe, Head of the Slovenian Delegation to the Assembly, Roberto Battelli, opened the conference's third session. He gave a short presentation of the topic of energy security, **stressing the importance of stable energy infrastructure in the region**.

Mr. van der Elst gave a brief introduction to the work of the **Energy Community Treaty (ECT)**, and its Secretariat, with a particular focus on work in South East Europe. He noted that the key objectives behind the Treaty in South East Europe is ensuring stable infrastructure to permit steady growth. The speaker also stressed that the initiatives within the ECT, particularly regional integration of markets, present an excellent opportunity to reduce reliance on any single energy source. He noted that the incentive of greater integration into EU structures had helped in this regard. In addition, **mutual assistance across borders in case of energy problems in individual countries had proven to be a strong advantage of the ECT**.

Jelena Beronja, Regional Desk Officer of the Environment and Security Initiative "Energy and Environmental Challenges to Security" introduced the **Environment and Security (ENVSEC) Initiative** by highlighting the growing recognition that security problems are no longer seen in purely militaristic terms. In relation to work in South East Europe, Ms. Beronja discussed projects aimed at countering environmental degradation caused by mining.

In an active discussion, parliamentarians raised a number of issues related to energy security. The **increasing importance of the topic** and open debate on the field was noted. Delegates mentioned examples of international co-operation from their own experiences, noting the mutual dependence that this creates. **The importance of reforms to implement modern energy policies was stressed.** Several Members emphasized the potential and importance of renewable energy sources and urged greater inclusion of this within discussions on the topic.

2007 Winter Meeting, Vienna

Special Debate on “Energy Security in the OSCE Area”

A special debate on energy security took place at the 2007 Winter Meeting, with interventions by parliamentarians from the US and Canada, Western and Eastern Europe, as well as the Caucasus and Central Asia. Many underlined the importance of finding global solutions that create stability and reliability while others stressed the environmental aspects of energy security, such as energy saving, conservation, and finding alternative sources to fossil fuels. **A number of speakers expressed deep concern over the absence of transparency and reliable prices and urged the OSCE and the EU to get increasingly involved and to create a common energy policy.**

Delegates also noted that not only energy security, but food security, quality of life, and bio-energy should be topics of future discussions. Many emphasized the relationship between energy security and the different roles that producer, transit, and consumer-countries have in dealing with the issue. It was noted that the relationship between increasing demand for energy and climate change should be acknowledged and should drive the **political will** to utilize new sources of energy such as biofuel, solar power, and wind power. Such alternative sources could also help to counteract energy vulnerability in the OSCE area. Finally, many delegates stated that **the power over energy is connected to an enormous responsibility and that energy resources should not be allowed to be used as a diplomatic weapon.** Different ideas developed out of the special debate. The need for further work on topics concerning energy security was noted, and participants made an appeal to start a real dialogue on energy security within the OSCE.