

---

**Chairmanship: Ukraine****961st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 18 July 2013

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 1.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador I. Prokopchuk

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson informed the Permanent Council that the Chairperson-in-Office, in a letter (Annex 1) issued on 17 July 2013, had announced the adoption through a silence procedure of Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/13 (MC.DEC/2/13) on the appointment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Chairperson, Finland

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION (SCO), MR. DMITRY MEZENTSEV

Chairperson, Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, Kyrgyzstan, Lithuania-European Union (with the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/690/13), United States of America (PC.DEL/685/13), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/701/13), Uzbekistan, Turkey (PC.DEL/693/13), Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation), Mongolia

Agenda item 2: OSCE OFFICE IN YEREVAN

Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan (PC.FR/15/13 OSCE+), Lithuania-European Union (with the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/691/13), United States of America (PC.DEL/687/13), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/702/13 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/686/13 OSCE+), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/695/13 OSCE+), Armenia, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE DATES AND AGENDA OF THE 2013 ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1087 (PC.DEC/1087) on the dates and agenda of the 2013 Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Needs Assessment Mission Report of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on the presidential elections in Azerbaijan, to be held in October 2013 (ODIHR.GAL/51/13):* Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/696/13), Norway (PC.DEL/689/13), Belarus, United States of America (PC.DEL/692/13), Russian Federation, Lithuania-European Union, Chairperson
- (b) *Release of former Minister of Culture Mr. G. Nurmammedov in Turkmenistan:* United States of America (PC.DEL/688/13), Turkmenistan

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the report on the activities of the Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/105/13):* Chairperson
- (b) *Visit of the Chairperson-in-Office to Armenia on 15 July 2013:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/105/13)
- (c) *Meeting in the "5+2" negotiation format on the settlement of the Transdniestrian conflict, held in Vienna on 16 and 17 July 2013:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/105/13)
- (d) *Appointment of the Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan:* Chairperson

- (e) *Appointment of the Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania*: Chairperson
- (f) *Appointment of the First Deputy Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)*: Chairperson

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Donors' visit to Georgia, conducted on 11 and 12 July 2013*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General
- (b) *Briefing on the mélange project in Kazakhstan*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General
- (c) *Conference on Mediation in the OSCE Area, held in Bucharest on 15 and 16 July 2013*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General
- (d) *Presentation to the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance by OSCE Legal Services on local staff income tax, in accordance with Permanent Council Decision No. 1073, delivered on 16 July 2013*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of France to the OSCE, Ambassador F. Alabrune*: Chairperson, France
- (b) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Malta to the OSCE, Ambassador C. Scicluna*: Chairperson, Malta
- (c) *Activities for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination in Andorra*: Andorra (PC.DEL/694/13)
- (d) *Erection of a monument in Berlin to the victims of Nazi euthanasia programmes*: Germany (Annex 2)
- (e) *22nd Annual Session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 29 June to 3 July 2013*: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
- (f) *Informal briefing on the outcomes of the visit of representatives of the OSCE to Mongolia, to be held in Vienna on 19 July 2013*: Chairperson
- (g) *OSCE Youth Summit, to be held in Crimea, Ukraine, from 20 July to 1 August 2013*: Chairperson

- (h) *Consultations on a draft decision on the agenda for the 2013 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting: Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 25 July 2013, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/961  
18 July 2013  
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

---

**961st Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 961, Point 2

## **LETTER OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE**

17 July 2013  
Kyiv

Dear Colleague,

In my capacity as OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, I have the honour to inform you that the period of silence on the draft decision of the Ministerial Council on the appointment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (MC.DD/2/13), expiring on 17 July 2013, at noon CET, has not been broken.

The decision is therefore effective as of today and will be attached to the journal of the Twentieth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council and to the journal of the next meeting of the Permanent Council on 18 July 2013.

Those participating States that intend to exercise their rights to duly register an interpretative statement or a formal reservation under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE are invited to do so through their OSCE delegations at the above-mentioned meeting of the Permanent Council.

Sincerely,

[signature]

Leonid Kozhara  
Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine

To the Ministers for Foreign Affairs  
of the OSCE participating States



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

PC.JOUR/961  
18 July 2013  
Annex 2

ENGLISH  
Original: GERMAN

---

**961st Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 961, Agenda item 7(d)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY**

Mr. Chairperson,

Between 1939 and 1945 some 200,000 people fell victim to the euthanasia killings by the Nazis. On 8 July, work began in the centre of Berlin on the construction of a monument in memory of these victims. This monument will be erected at the place where the co-ordinating office stood in the Nazi period.

Examining the crimes of National Socialism, commemorating the victims and informing future generations remain a permanent task and duty for the Federal Republic of Germany. In his address on the occasion of the start of the construction work on the monument, the German State Minister for Culture, Bernd Neumann, explained that this memorial once again sends a signal “against hate, delusion and cold-heartedness and for tolerance, empathy and respect for life”.

Mr. Chairperson,

In this way topics are addressed that also play a central role in our discussions here. We are all called upon to face our past. But not only that, we must also take responsibility for our actions in the present. In this context, the crucial question is to what extent these actions are consistent with our commitments that we have assumed within the OSCE.

This is a question for all participating States alike. There is no difference between participating States to the west or to the east of Vienna. Reflexes from the Cold War era have no place here. Nor can we limit ourselves to mutual accusations and recriminations. In the interests of our common security it is much more a question of conducting a dialogue without reservations on the implementation of our common commitments. It seems to me that the culture of dialogue necessary for this appears to have been lost recently.

Dialogue for me also means a readiness to listen and to engage in self-critical reflection. This is precisely what may have motivated Pope Francis during his visit to Lampedusa on 8 July, when he not only called for more solidarity with refugees, but also lamented that in this world of globalization we have fallen into a globalization of indifference. Indifference towards others is an often observed phenomenon in our welfare societies. We must not, however, accept indifference.

Especially this year the OSCE too is facing challenges where we cannot allow ourselves to be indifferent. This applies to the fight against trafficking in human beings and organs just as it does to the long-term guarantee of indivisible security through the updating and adaptation of the exemplary arms control instruments created here in the OSCE.

I therefore hope that we, aware of our responsibility, will begin preparations for the Ministerial Council in Kyiv and achieve substantial results for that Ministerial Council, results with which we can strengthen the OSCE *acquis* and bring the Organization closer to a security community, a security community that is based on co-operation and trust.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

MC.DEC/2/13  
17 July 2013

Original: ENGLISH

---

**DECISION No. 2/13  
APPOINTMENT OF THE OSCE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON  
NATIONAL MINORITIES**

The Ministerial Council,

Recalling the decision of the CSCE Helsinki Summit 1992 to establish a High Commissioner on National Minorities,

Considering that, in accordance with Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/10, the mandate of Mr. Knut Vollebaek as OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities will expire on 19 August 2013,

Expressing its gratitude to the outgoing OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Mr. Knut Vollebaek, for his contribution to the work of the OSCE and to developing the activities of the OSCE,

Taking into account the recommendation of the Permanent Council,

Decides to appoint Ms. Astrid Thors as OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities for a period of three years with effect from 20 August 2013.





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

PC.DEC/1087  
18 July 2013

Original: ENGLISH

---

**961st Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 961, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1087**  
**DATES AND AGENDA OF THE 2013 ECONOMIC AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING**

The Permanent Council,

Further to Permanent Council Decision No. 1011 on strengthening the effectiveness of the economic and environmental dimension of the OSCE, in which participating States agreed, *inter alia*, to hold the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting on an annual basis in accordance with the mandate and modalities established by Permanent Council Decision No. 995,

Decides to convene the 2013 Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting on 21 and 22 October 2013 in Vienna, in accordance with the agenda contained in the annex to this decision.

## **AGENDA OF THE 2013 ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING**

Vienna, 21 and 22 October 2013

### **Monday, 21 October 2013**

- 9.30–11 a.m.            Opening session – 10th Anniversary of the 2003 Maastricht Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension: role and implementation
- Coffee/Tea break
- 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.    Session I – Opportunities and challenges in the OSCE’s economic and environmental dimension, and its strategic orientation
- Lunch break
- 2.30–4 p.m.            Session II – Implementation of the OSCE commitments through enhanced co-operation between the participating States, OSCE executive structures and other stakeholders: examples in the economic field
- Coffee/Tea break
- 4.30–6 p.m.            Session III – Implementation of the OSCE commitments through enhanced co-operation between the participating States, OSCE executive structures and other stakeholders: examples in the environmental field

### **Tuesday, 22 October 2013**

- 9.30–11 a.m.            Session IV – Engaging private sector and civil society in the implementation of the OSCE commitments
- Coffee/Tea break
- 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.    Session IV (Continued)
- Lunch break
- 2.30–4 p.m.            Session V – The way forward: plans, proposals and recommendations for future actions in 2014
- 4–4.30 p.m.            Closing remarks