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**Bulgarian Chairmanship****498th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 4 March 2004

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 11.45 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. I. Petrov

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, expressed condolences to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the death of President Boris Trajkovski in an air crash on 26 February 2004. Bosnia and Herzegovina (also on behalf of Albania, Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro) (PC.DEL/140/04) offered sincere condolences to the President's family and to the citizens of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/143/04 OSCE+) thanked the Chairperson and delegations.

3. Subjects discussed — Statements — Decisions:

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

*Situation of the Roma population in Slovakia:* Slovakia (PC.DEL/142/04 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Ireland-European Union (European Commission) (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/144/04), United States of America (PC.DEL/146/04), United Kingdom, Armenia (PC.DEL/150/04 Restr.), Russian Federation, Canada (also on behalf of Norway), Belarus, Serbia and Montenegro, Chairperson

Agenda item 3:           REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

*Announcement of the distribution of a written report on the activities of the  
Chairman-in-Office (CIO.GAL/19/04 OSCE+): Chairperson*

Agenda item 4:           REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a)   *Visit of the Secretary General to Ukraine on 1 and 2 March 2004:*  
Secretary General
- (b)   *2003 Annual Report on OSCE Activities:* Secretary General
- (c)   *Proposal on establishing an Audit Committee:* Secretary General, Armenia
- (d)   *Regional Heads of Centre meeting in Central Asia:* Secretary General
- (e)   *OSCE-ICAO Travel Document Security Workshop, held in Vienna on 1 and  
2 March 2004:* Secretary General
- (f)   *United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee conference, to be held in  
Vienna on 11 and 12 March 2004:* Secretary General
- (g)   *Workshop on the CORE report “Working in OSCE field missions”, held in  
Vienna on 27 February 2004:* Secretary General
- (h)   *Recruitment of a Head of the Border Monitoring Operation in Georgia:*  
Secretary General

Agenda item 5:           ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a)   *Conference on “Breaking the barriers, the fight against HIV/AIDS in Europe  
and Central Asia”, held in Dublin on 23 and 24 February 2004:* Ireland  
(PC.DEL/145/04)
- (b)   *Activities of the Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media:*  
Italy (PC.DEL/141/04), Azerbaijan, Chairperson, Russian Federation,  
Germany, Turkey
- (c)   *Recruitment of a Special Representative on Anti-Trafficking:* Chairperson

4.   Next meeting:

Thursday, 11 March 2004, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal.