“PROMOTING LASTING SOLUTIONS – APPROACHES TO CONFLICT RESOLUTION IN THE OSCE AREA”

OSCE Security Days Event, 16 September 2013, Hofburg, Vienna

THE EVENT:

Launched in 2012 at the initiative of the Secretary General Lamberto Zannier, the Security Days is a forum for dialogue on the current and future role of the OSCE as a security organization. It is a valuable opportunity for practitioners, experts, representatives of civil society and delegates to engage with panellists in an interactive discussion both on the challenges the OSCE faces in addressing current security threats and on the role of civil society in shaping a security community.

This Security Days event will provide a platform for discussion on conflict resolution and peace enhancement tools. It will focus on conceptual and practical approaches in order to identify where further work should be taken forward as regards OSCE conflict resolution efforts and related aspects. The aim is to optimize the Organization’s comparative advantages while taking account of the role and contributions of other international/regional organizations as well as lessons learned and best practices.

PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA:

08.00 Registration

09.00 Opening Session

Welcome note by Amb. Ihor Prokopchuk, Chairperson of the Permanent Council (TBC)

Introductory remarks by Amb. Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General

Keynote speech Dr. I. William Zartman, Professor Emeritus at the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

09.45 Session I – Working towards sustainable results: Conceptual and practical approaches to conflict resolution in the OSCE area

Moderator: Amb. Lamberto Zannier, OSCE Secretary General

Panellists: Amb. Friedrich Tanner, Senior Advisor/Liaison to Swiss Chairmanship, OSCE Office of the Secretary General
This panel will look into the conceptual basis for conflict resolution in the OSCE area, elaborating in particular on generic principles and practices of conflict resolution and identifying those processes that make conflict resolution work. Cross-dimensional issues will be addressed along with the particular contribution of female actors. Drawing on examples from the OSCE area and beyond, the panel will consider what and how further work should be taken forward by the Organization in the area of conflict resolution, in particular with the aim to optimize the OSCE's comparative advantages vis-à-vis the role and contributions of other international/regional organizations.

11.15 Coffee break

11:45 Session II – Strengthening the toolbox: Existing and potential mechanisms for conflict resolution in an OSCE setting

Moderator: Roxana Cristescu, Head of the Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia Programme at Crisis Management Initiative (CMI)

Panellists: Dr. Antje Herrberg, UN Stand-By Team of Mediation Experts

Ilze Brands Kehris, Director of the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Prof. Andrei Zagorski, Head of the Department for Disarmament and Conflict Resolution Studies, Russian Academy for Sciences

Amb. Markus Mueller, Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan

This panel will explore tools that are and could be used in conflict resolution in an OSCE setting, such as dialogue facilitation and mediation (track one and track two), preventive diplomacy (as employed by the OSCE’s High Commissioner on National Minorities) conciliation and arbitration, peace agreements and mechanisms to monitor and to provide guarantees for their implementation as well as non-military CBMs. Taking into account lessons learned and best practices, the panel will consider whether the current toolbox
needs strengthening and/or new tools should be developed to complement those that exist.

13.15 Lunch break

14.15 Session III – Deploying for peace: The contributions of regional/multilateral organizations to international peace operations

Moderator: Dr. Walter Kemp, Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Peace Institute

Panellists: Dr. William Hill, National War College, Fort McNair

Dr. Walter Feichtinger, Austrian National Defence Academy

Gen. Yves de Kermabon, Special Advisor on CSDP, European External Action Service (EEAS)

Dr. Jaïr van der Lijn, Senior Researcher at the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)

Taking account of the 1992 Helsinki Document, the main framework for possible OSCE peacekeeping operations, as well as other OSCE documents related to peacekeeping, including the 1993 Rome Ministerial Document (Chapter II), the 1999 Charter for European Security and the letter on peacekeeping from the Chairperson of the Permanent Council to the Chairman-in-Office (Appendix 13 of the journal of the Eleventh MC in Maastricht), this panel will review actual or potential contributions of regional/multilateral organizations to peacekeeping. In close conjunction with on-going debates on future peacekeeping operations, the panel will consider what the planning, establishment and running of military and civilian peacekeeping components could entail and how future operations could meet the challenge of an increasingly complex set of actors and dynamics on the ground.

15.45 Coffee break

16.15 Session IV – Making it last: Consolidating non-violent conflict resolution through building infrastructures for peace

Moderator: Amb. Thomas Greminger, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the OSCE, the United Nations and the International Organizations in Vienna

Panellists: Paul van Tongeren, Founder of the International Civil Society Network on Infrastructures for Peace

Prof. Hans J. Giessmann, Executive Director of the Berghof Foundation
Mindful that the likelihood of returning to violence may be reduced through the establishment of preventive structures, this panel will look into effective mechanisms for sustainable non-violent conflict resolution. The panel will in particular explore the potential added value of enhancing infrastructures for peace, a dynamic network of interdependent structures, mechanisms and resources linking both state actors as well as civil society institutions. In the same context, the panel will consider approaches to post-conflict rehabilitation that should have near-term prominence in the aftermath of conflict resolution, including but not limited to providing basic security, delivering peace dividends, shoring up and building confidence in the political process and strengthening core national capacity to lead peace building efforts. The potential contribution of reconciliation initiatives to peace building will also be part of the discussion.

17.45 Closing Remarks by Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, Director Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat

18.00 Reception