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**1525th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1525, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1507**  
**2025 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE**  
**AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CONFERENCE AND LANGUAGE**  
**SERVICES PROGRAMME**

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations,

Reiterating the importance of full transparency and accountability in the functioning of the OSCE,

Acknowledging that agreement could not yet be found on all programmatic activities and noting the need to continue some of these discussions,

Reiterating the importance of Permanent Council Decisions No. 486 of 28 June 2002 and No. 553 of 27 June 2003,

Acknowledging that the discussions on the 2025 Unified Budget are still ongoing, without prejudice to the outcome of these discussions,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.04 – Provisional Expenditure Authorization,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.01(b) – with reference to the authority of the Permanent Council to take decisions on all elements of the budget,

1. Takes note of the OSCE 2025 Year-End Financial Forecast (document PC.ACMF/24/25 of 23 May 2025);
2. Takes note of the Chairmanship's suggestion on resolving the forecasted deficit (PC.ACMF/33/25 of 13 June 2025);
3. Takes note of the planned transfers of 39,000 euros to the Conference and Language Services programme as set forth in the annex in line with the second measure proposed by the Chairmanship in document PC.ACMF/33/25, while noting that the planned transfers will increase and advance the expected year-end deficit under other programmes;

4. Approves the additional provisional expenditure authorization for the activities of the Conference and Language Services programme of 405,000 euros, on an exceptional basis, in order to meet the anticipated financing requirements until the end of September 2025 as set forth in the annex, in line with the fifth measure proposed by the Chairmanship in document PC.ACMF/33/25;
5. Determines that this additional provisional expenditure authorization shall be financed from the provisional 2024 cash surplus<sup>1</sup> originating principally from the interest received from banks.

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1 As per the 2024 Financial Statements that are currently under audit by the External Auditor.

## 2025 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION

<b><u>Fund</u></b> <b>Main Programme</b> Programme	<b>Provisional Expenditure Authorization Financial Regulation 3.04*</b> <b>A</b>	<b>Transfers Financial Regulation 3.02**</b> <b>B</b>	<b>Total Forecast Expenditure 2025</b> <b>C</b>	<b>Estimated Year-End Balance</b> <b>D=A+B-C</b>	<b>Additional Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b> <b>E</b>	<b>Total Revised Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b> <b>F=A+B+E</b>
<b><u>The Secretariat</u></b> <b>Secretary General and Central Services</b>						
Conference and Language Services	5,437,500	39,000	7,096,500	(1,620,000)	405,000	5,881,500
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION</b>					<b>405,000</b>	

\* Reflects provisional expenditure authorization until the end of 2025.

\*\* Reflects transfers planned to be made in June 2025 from other programmes under the Secretary General and Central Services (14,000 euros from the Office of Legal Affairs programme, 10,000 euros from the Communication and Media Relations Section programme, 10,000 euros from the External Co-operation programme and 5,000 euros from the Gender Issues programme).

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the provisional expenditure authorization, the United Kingdom would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

As stated on numerous occasions, the United Kingdom would like to underline the importance of all parts of the OSCE being adequately financed to fulfil their mandates. Addressing the forecast deficits in the 2025 budget is an urgent issue for the Organization, and it was critical a decision to authorize additional funds for the Conference and Language Services programme was approved today.

We welcome that participating States have allowed this draft decision to pass, and hope that the constructive spirit shown in agreeing to this expenditure authorization can be carried forward to future discussions on the 2025 and 2026 Unified Budget.

The United Kingdom once again warmly thanks the Chairperson-in-Office and Secretariat teams for their continued efforts to resolve the financial issues facing the Organization.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be attached to the decision as adopted and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on funding Conference and Language Services, the United States would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The absence of an adopted Unified Budget has hampered the OSCE’s ability to plan meetings, conferences, and language services within its provided budget.

The absence of an adopted Unified Budget has also required the use of Permanent Council time and decision authority on essentially administrative reallocation of funds, which is not the best use of our Permanent Representatives’ time.

We understand other participating States share these concerns. We urge participating States to adopt a Unified Budget as soon as possible to put the Organization on a stable financial footing to execute its core functions in line with its mandate.

Madam Chairperson, I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1507

19 June 2025

Attachment 3

ENGLISH

Original: FRENCH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Poland (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden):

“The Member States of the European Union welcome the adoption of the Permanent Council decision granting an authorization of additional expenditure for Conference and Language Services (CLS).

The purpose of CLS is to enable the work of the entire OSCE, and we must maintain its services if the Organization is to function properly. To that end, the participating States must ensure adequate funding for this programme, including for the provision of interpretation services.

The amounts mentioned in this decision will make it possible to address a deficit in the CLS budget to cover legally binding commitments, mainly staff costs and office expenses. This deficit is due to the absence of an adequate Unified Budget.

The Member States of the European Union, together accounting for almost 60 per cent of the OSCE budget, note with concern the deterioration in the Organization’s financial situation, which is now affecting its ability to honour its legally binding commitments. Despite the cost-cutting measures taken by the various structures to achieve savings, the level of forecasted year-end budget deficits reported by the Secretariat remains very worrying. The adoption of the OSCE Unified Budget without delay is the shared responsibility of all participating States and we must accord this absolute priority because it is important to provide all programme managers in the Organization with operational stability until the end of the year.

The EU Member States thank the Finnish Chairmanship for its determined efforts to solve the problems posed by the lack of adequate financing for our Organization, in particular the absence of a Unified Budget for 2025, and by the failure to adopt the Financial Statements for 2022 and 2023. We look forward to receiving the Chairmanship’s first proposal for the 2025 Unified Budget shortly and stand ready to study it in a constructive spirit as soon as it is circulated.”

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Azerbaijan:

“In connection with the decision on the 2025 additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services programme adopted by the Permanent Council, the delegation of Azerbaijan would like to make the following interpretative statement.

The delegation of Azerbaijan joined the consensus on this decision on the basis of the understanding that the decision by the Permanent Council is adopted on an exceptional basis and does not set a precedent.

Furthermore, this decision acknowledges that the discussions on the 2025 Unified Budget are still ongoing, without prejudice to the outcome of these discussions.

This decision also reiterates the determination reflected in the decision by the Permanent Council on the adoption of the 2021 Unified Budget, as well as in other financial decisions, and acknowledges explicitly that agreement could not yet be found on all programmatic activities, which includes the former so-called Minsk Process, the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office and the High-Level Planning Group.

The Chairmanship and the Secretariat should use this political guidance in the preparation of the 2025 budget proposal.

It is high time to conclude all discussions on the dysfunctional, obsolete and irrelevant structures of the former Minsk Process and to move to actions. For this purpose, the OSCE structures referred to above must be closed and removed from the budget. The scarce resources of the Organization must be allocated to the relevant structures of the OSCE, where they are needed the most to fund the programmatic activities that are relevant and around which there is consensus. This will ensure that the Organization remains relevant and agile and continues to deliver.

In this regard, we reiterate our call to the Chairmanship and the Secretariat to expeditiously prepare a plan that defines the main parameters and determines the tasks and administrative arrangements to close the structures related to the former Minsk Process. This will ensure the collective support of all participating States for the timely adoption of the

Unified Budget, will restore the functionality of the Organization and will put the financing of the Organization on a sustainable path.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the Permanent Council decision and to the journal of the day.”



Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Canada:

“Madam Chairperson,

Regarding the decision just adopted on the additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services programme, Canada would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

Support for this decision is in the best interest of the Organization. However, as a more sustainable solution, participating States should agree to a Unified Budget as a matter of urgency and pay their assessed contributions in full and on time.

We emphasize that the piecemeal approach of allocating resources is neither sustainable nor desirable. In this context, we look forward to forthcoming discussions on the Unified Budget and other financial and administrative issues and strongly encourage all participating States to engage constructively in these discussions.

We want to acknowledge the difficult situation that the lack of a Unified Budget creates for the well-being of OSCE staff, who are vital to all functions of the Organization. We thank them for their dedication and professionalism.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision and journal of the day. Thank you.”

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Armenia:

“In connection with the adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the 2025 additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services programme, the delegation of Armenia would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

Armenia joins the consensus noting the efforts by the Chairmanship to address the urgent need of additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services programme to ensure the smooth conduct of activities by Conference and Language Services. Armenia supports this decision on an exceptional basis.

The reference in this decision to the lack of agreement on all programmatic activities is redundant and not relevant for the purpose of this decision. However, it does not refer to only a single programmatic activity. In the absence of a decision on the Unified Budget there is a need for agreement on all programmatic activities.

We are deeply concerned that the primary cause of the current situation is the non-approval of the OSCE's Unified Budget. Armenia reiterates its readiness to support early adoption of the Unified Budget based on OSCE commitments and decisions adopted by all participating States, including those related to the Minsk Process, the High-Level Planning Group and the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the conflict dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference.

Armenia requests that this interpretative statement be attached to the adopted decision and to the journal of the day.”