

Chairmanship: Slovakia

1221st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 28 March 2019

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 12.55 p.m.
Resumed: 3.10 p.m.
Closed: 5.30 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Boháč
Mr. B. Lysák

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson announced that the Slovak OSCE Chairmanship had received a formal notification from the Government of Kazakhstan indicating that the name of its capital city has been changed from Astana to Nur-Sultan. He added that the OSCE field operation in Kazakhstan would accordingly be renamed the “OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan”.

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OSCE
IT INFRASTRUCTURE UPGRADE FUND

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1322 (PC.DEC/1322) on the establishment of the OSCE IT Infrastructure Upgrade Fund, the text of which is appended to this journal.

United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

(a) *Russia’s ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/358/19), Romania-European Union (with the

candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/344/19), Switzerland, Turkey (PC.DEL/368/19 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/354/19 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/319/19)

- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/320/19), Ukraine, United States of America
- (c) *Sentencing of Mr. O. Titiev:* Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Australia, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/345/19/Rev.1), United States of America (PC.DEL/324/19), Canada (PC.DEL/370/19 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/352/19 OSCE+), Norway, Ukraine (PC.DEL/359/19), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/321/19 OSCE+)
- (d) *Freedom of expression in the Russian Federation:* Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Canada, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/346/19/Rev.1), United States of America (PC.DEL/325/19), Ukraine (PC.DEL/360/19), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/322/19 OSCE+), Germany, France (PC.DEL/340/19 OSCE+), Canada
- (e) *International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, observed on 21 March:* United States of America (PC.DEL/327/19), Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/347/19/Rev.1), Canada (PC.DEL/323/19/Rev.1 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/333/19), Norway, Ukraine, Latvia (PC.DEL/339/19)
- (f) *Moratorium on executions in the state of California, United States of America:* Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/349/19), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/332/19), Norway (also on behalf of Liechtenstein and Switzerland), Belarus (PC.DEL/356/19 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/355/19)

- (g) *Violations by Ukraine of its OSCE commitments in the context of the presidential election to be held there on 31 March 2019*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/336/19)
- (h) *Political prosecution of Mr. P. Hryb and other Ukrainian citizens illegally detained by the Russian Federation*: Ukraine, Canada (PC.DEL/371/19 OSCE+), United States of America, Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/372/19), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/330/19 OSCE+)
- (i) *Twenty years since the beginning of NATO aggression against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia*: Serbia (PC.DEL/362/19 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/337/19), United States of America (PC.DEL/341/19), United Kingdom, Albania (PC.DEL/342/19 OSCE+), Germany (PC.DEL/343/19 OSCE+), France (PC.DEL/335/19 OSCE+), Italy (PC.DEL/365/19 OSCE+)
- (j) *Interference by the Russian Federation in the presidential election to be held in Ukraine on 31 March 2019*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/363/19), Russian Federation, Canada (PC.DEL/369/19 OSCE+)
- (k) *Final verdict in the case of Mr. R. Karadžić*: United States of America, Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/350/19), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/348/19), Albania, Turkey

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

- (a) *2019 OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference on “Taking stock of efforts to prevent and counter terrorism as well as violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism in the OSCE area”, held in Bratislava on 25 and 26 March 2019*: Chairperson
- (b) *Meeting of the Informal Working Group on Civil Society Participation at OSCE Events, to be held in Vienna on 8 April 2019*: Chairperson
- (c) *OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on “Upholding the principles of tolerance and non-discrimination, including in the promotion and protection of freedom of religion or belief”, to be held in Vienna on 1 and 2 April 2019*: Chairperson
- (d) *High-level meeting on the reform of the OSCE Scales of Contributions, to be held in Bratislava on 5 April 2019*: Chairperson

- (e) *Call for nominations for the position of Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings: Chairperson*

Agenda item 4: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Downing of an unmanned aerial vehicle of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine on 18 February 2019: Chairperson, Secretary General (SEC.GAL/55/19 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/55/19/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (b) *Participation of the Secretary General in the 2019 OSCE-wide Counter-Terrorism Conference on “Taking stock of efforts to prevent and counter terrorism as well as violent extremism and radicalization that lead to terrorism in the OSCE area”, held in Bratislava on 25 and 26 March 2019: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/55/19 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/55/19/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (c) *Participation of the Secretary General in the Mediterranean Contact Group meeting held in Vienna on 19 March 2019: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/55/19 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/55/19/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (d) *Meeting of the Secretary General with the United Nations Assistant Secretary-General for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas, Department of Peace Operations, conducted in Vienna on 18 March 2019: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/55/19 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/55/19/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (e) *Call for nominations for the position of Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings and for the position of Deputy Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/55/19 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/55/19/Add.1 OSCE+)*

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the OSCE, Ambassador J. Jovičić: Chairperson, Bosnia and Herzegovina*
- (b) *Federal election in Switzerland, to be held on 20 October 2019: Switzerland (PC.DEL/351/19 OSCE+)*
- (c) *Recent developments in Kazakhstan: Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan, Russian Federation, Tajikistan (PC.DEL/338/19 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/357/19 OSCE+), Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Turkmenistan*
- (d) *Summit of the Prime Minister of Armenia and the President of Azerbaijan, to be held in Vienna on 29 March 2019: France*

4. Next meeting:

Friday, 29 March 2019, at 3 p.m., in the Neuer Saal



1221st Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1221, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 1322
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE OSCE IT INFRASTRUCTURE
UPGRADE FUND**

The Permanent Council,

With the aim to provide an increased information security baseline for the OSCE through the re-architecture and upgrade of the OSCE IT infrastructure,

Taking note of the document “OSCE Secure ICT Core Platform Infrastructure Upgrade Implementation Modalities” (PC.ACMF/13/19/Rev.1), including the financial impact of moving to an annual subscription model,

Decides to:

Establish a separate Fund, hereafter referred to as the IT Infrastructure Upgrade Fund, for the financing of the upgrade to the latest version of ICT core platform technologies and the re-architecture and deployment of a secure OSCE IT infrastructure in line with PC.ACMF/13/19/Rev.1. The Fund will cover the implementation period, with the balance carried forward from one year to the next;

Request the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM) to, through efficiency and re-prioritization efforts, reallocate an amount of 1.240 million euros from the 2018–2019 budget for the implementation of the ICT Core Platform Infrastructure upgrade for the SMM;

Allocate to the newly established Fund 1.920 million euros from available 2017 cash surplus for implementation of the ICT Core Platform Infrastructure upgrade for all executive structures except the SMM and the Secretariat;

Allocate 0.400 million euros from funds coming from 2018 Unified Budget balances for the implementation of the ICT Core Platform Infrastructure upgrade for the Secretariat;

Further decides that:

Any funds remaining available in the Fund at the time of completion of the activities will be treated in accordance with Financial Regulation 7.07;

Requests:

The Secretary General as Fund Manager to administer the Fund in accordance with Article VII of the Financial Regulations and to provide reports on the implementation of the Fund quarterly or more frequently if required;

The Secretary General as Fund Manager to ensure that the activities foreseen under this Fund are completed in the most cost-effective and timely manner.

PC.DEC/1322
28 March 2019
Attachment

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:

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The United States wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

In joining consensus on the establishment of the OSCE IT Infrastructure Upgrade Fund the United States wants to reiterate, for the record, support for this proposal including the use of the cash surplus and acknowledgement of future costs such as licensing fees does not imply any commitment on our part to increase our contributions in this year or in future years.

All additional costs arising from the upgrade must be financed within existing resources available to the various executive structures.

We request that this statement be attached to this decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”