

641st Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 756
OSCE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2007 ON
PREVENTING AND COMBATING TERRORISM**

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to the OSCE Charter on Preventing and Combating Terrorism and to the OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century,

Recalling, among others, previously-agreed commitments to address terrorism and threats posed by terrorist and other criminal groups,

Taking into account that Spain, as incoming Chairmanship-in-Office, wishes to build on the work carried out by previous Chairmanships and strives to ensure the continuity and coherence of the OSCE activities against terrorism, including participating States' commitments to protect human rights,

Further to the discussion within the framework of the Working Group on Non-Military Aspects of Security,

1. Decides to adopt the OSCE work programme for 2007 on preventing and combating terrorism, as contained in the annex to this decision;
2. Tasks the Secretary General to organize the following events in close consultations with the Chairmanship-in-Office and the participating States concerned:
 - A follow-up workshop on the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/05 on enhancing legal co-operation in criminal matters to counter terrorism, in March 2007 in Vienna;
 - A political conference on public-private partnership in countering terrorism, in May 2007 in Vienna;
 - A follow-up workshop on the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/03 on travel document security, in July 2007 in Vienna;

3. Tasks the Director of the ODIHR to organize in close consultations with the Chairmanship-in-Office, a high-level meeting on victims of terrorism, in September 2007 in Vienna;
4. Decides that these events will be financed from the 2007 OSCE Unified Budget as well as through the extra-budgetary contributions of participating States;
5. Encourages the participating States to participate in all activities at the proposed levels in order to enhance the co-operation and dialogue within the OSCE in the fight against terrorism;
6. Invites the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and the Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) to be fully engaged and contribute with their experience to the development of all activities included in the work programme.

OSCE WORK PROGRAMME FOR 2007 ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING TERRORISM

I. Overall objectives

Spain, as incoming Chairmanship-in-Office, like all other participating States, agrees that terrorism continues to be one of the most serious threats to peace and security. Spain has consistently reaffirmed its determination to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and over the last years Spain has contributed to and supported the adoption of a number of practical decisions further implementation of which will increase the level of security and stability in the OSCE area.

In particular, Spain was involved in the preparation and further implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/03 on travel document security and Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/05 on enhancing legal co-operation in criminal matters to counter terrorism. Spain also promoted the adoption in 2004 of Permanent Council Decision No. 618 on solidarity with victims of terrorism. All these decisions were aimed at ensuring the implementation of participating States' obligations under international law to prevent and combat terrorism.

As announced in the statement delivered by the Spanish delegation at the meeting of the Working Group on Non-Military Aspects of Security on 12 June 2006 (PC.DEL/545/06), Spain will continue the work carried out by previous Chairmanships to facilitate a better implementation of the OSCE global strategy against terrorism, making special efforts on the above-mentioned decisions. It is Spain's objective during its Chairmanship-in-Office in 2007 to keep the strategy on preventing and combating terrorism among its priorities.

II. Planned activities

1. Legal co-operation in criminal matters related to terrorism

Proposed activity: follow-up workshop on the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/05 on enhancing legal co-operation in criminal matters to counter terrorism.

Proposed date for the follow-up workshop: March 2007.

Proposed place: Vienna.

Proposed concept paper: Spain will introduce to the participating States a concept paper on the agenda and modalities of the proposed workshop. Key elements of the paper will be, among others, a follow-up of the discussions of previous workshops organized in 2005 and 2006; the promotion of technical assistance tools for enhancing international legal co-operation in criminal matters related to terrorism; the promotion of mutual legal assistance and extradition in

terrorism-related cases; and the co-operation with other partner organizations, such as the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Council of Europe, Interpol and EUROJUST.

Proposed level of participation: high-level representatives of OSCE participating States, Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) (for the political outcome of the workshop), as well as prosecutors and judicial officials (for the technical outcome of the workshop).

2. OSCE political conference

Proposed activity: OSCE political conference on public-private partnership in countering terrorism.

Proposed date for the conference: May 2007.

Proposed place: Vienna.

Proposed concept paper: Further to their initiative put forward at the 2006 Annual Security Review Conference, the United States of America and the Russian Federation will introduce to the participating States a concept paper on the agenda and modalities of the proposed conference. Key elements of the paper will be, among others, the role of governments and international organizations in mobilizing and co-ordinating efforts on the national and international levels in combating terrorism; the dual role of NGOs and the civil society: interaction with governments and international organizations in combating terrorism and protection of human rights; involvement of businesses in counter-terrorism efforts in co-operation with governments.

Proposed level of participation: representatives of governments (national counter-terrorism bodies) of OSCE participating States, Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand); the UN and other international organizations involved in counter-terrorism activities; civil society including NGOs, academia/think tanks; journalists from major mass media outlets, TV- and radio-broadcasting companies; the press as well as the internet; the business community, in particular major shipping, transport, financial/banking, energy and defence companies.

3. Travel document security

Proposed activity: follow-up workshop on the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/03 on travel document security.

Proposed date for the follow-up workshop: July 2007.

Proposed place: Vienna.

Proposed concept paper: Spain will introduce to the participating States a concept paper on the agenda and modalities of the proposed workshop. Key elements of the paper will be, among others, the travel document security programme developed by the Action against

Terrorism Unit (ATU); the implementation of commitments undertaken in Bucharest, Maastricht, Sofia and Ljubljana in this area; the work done by OSCE participating States in upgrading their travel documents; the implementation of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) biometric standards; implementation of the ICAO minimum security standards for handling and issuance of passports; and the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/04 on reporting lost/stolen passports to Interpol's Automated Search Facility/Stolen Travel Document Database (ASF-STD).

Proposed level of participation: high-level representatives of OSCE participating States, Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) (for the political outcome of the workshop), and travel document experts (for the technical outcome of the workshop).

4. Solidarity with the victims of terrorism

Background: Spain promoted in 2004 the adoption of Permanent Council Decision No. 618 on solidarity with victims of terrorism, which was also endorsed by the Ministers in Sofia in December 2004. In this context, the ODIHR organized a Technical Workshop on Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism that took place in Oñate, Spain, on 9 and 10 March 2006. That workshop was intended to follow up the work on victims of terrorism in the OSCE area, in particular the compilation of existing domestic legislation relating to assistance to and compensation for the victims of terrorist acts.

Proposed activity: high-level meeting on victims of terrorism.

Proposed date for the meeting: September 2007.

Proposed place: Vienna.

Proposed concept paper: Spain will introduce to the participating States a concept paper on the agenda and modalities of the proposed high-level meeting. Key elements of the paper will be, among others, the outcome of the Technical Workshop on Solidarity with Victims of Terrorism. The final report on this workshop was issued under the reference ODIHR.GAL/23/06 (25 April 2006).

Proposed level of participation: high-level representatives of OSCE participating States, Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) and Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Japan, Mongolia, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) (for the political outcome of the high level meeting), national experts (for the technical outcome of the high level meeting), and NGOs.

5. Implementation of previously agreed commitments

Also, a review of the implementation of previously agreed commitments on preventing and combating terrorism will be considered as a part of the work programme for 2007.

6. Other activities

The list of activities included in this work programme is not exhaustive since other workshops and events proposed by participating States may be organized as well, if needed.

The calendar of OSCE events for 2007 will include any other activities on preventing and combating terrorism agreed at the Ministerial Council meeting in Brussels (4 and 5 December 2006) for their implementation under the Spanish Chairmanship-in-Office.