
Chairmanship: Spain**661st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 19 April 2007

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 12.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. C. Sánchez de Boado y de la Válgoma

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson expressed condolences to the United States of America in connection with the tragic events that had taken place at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University in Blacksburg, Virginia, on 16 April 2007. The United States of America thanked the Chairperson.

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

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Freedom of assembly in the Russian Federation:* Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/331/07), United States of America (PC.DEL/339/07), Canada, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/337/07 OSCE+)
- (b) *The death penalty in the United States of America and Ukraine's decision to accede to the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights:* Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/330/07), United States of America (PC.DEL/340/07)

- (c) *The thirty-sixth Earth Day, to be held on 22 April 2007*: United States of America (PC.DEL/338/07), Germany-European Union, Chairperson of the Economic and Environmental Committee of the Permanent Council (the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia)
- (d) *Recent developments in South Ossetia, Georgia*: Georgia
- (e) *Recent developments in the Transdniestrian region of Moldova*: Moldova (PC.DEL/335/07), United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: OSCE SPILLOVER MONITOR MISSION TO SKOPJE AND ADDRESS BY THE EUROPEAN UNION SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION DELEGATION TO THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, AMBASSADOR E. FOUÉRE

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje (PC.FR/8/07 OSCE+), European Union Special Representative and Head of the European Commission Delegation to the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/326/07 OSCE+), Germany-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/329/07), United States of America (PC.DEL/341/07), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/342/07 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 792 (PC.DEC/792), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the extension of the appointment of the external auditor.

Agenda item 4: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

Announcement of the distribution of the written report on the activities of the Chairman-in-Office: Chairperson

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the written report of the Secretary General*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre

- (b) *Visit of the Secretary General to Washington, D.C., from 26 to 28 March 2007:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (c) *Visit of the Secretary General to Albania, from 9 to 11 April 2007:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (d) *Meeting of the OSCE-Tajikistan task force, held in Dushanbe, on 27 March 2007:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (e) *Meeting of the Focal Points for Gender Issues, held in Vienna, on 27 and 28 March 2007:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (f) *Subregional workshop on suppressing acts of nuclear terrorism, held in Tashkent, on 12 and 13 April 2007:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (g) *Reissuance of vacancy notices for seconded posts in the OSCE:* Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Murder of three workers in a publishing house in Malatya, Turkey, on 18 April 2007:* Turkey, Holy See (PC.DEL/336/07 OSCE+)
- (b) *Elections to select members of the European Parliament, to be held in Bulgaria on 20 May 2007:* Bulgaria (PC.DEL/334/07)
- (c) *Local elections in England and general elections in Scotland and Wales, to be held on 3 May 2007:* United Kingdom (PC.DEL/314/07 OSCE+)
- (d) *Selection process for the appointment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities:* Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 26 April 2007, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal