

Second day of the Fifteenth Meeting
MC(15) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 5/07
PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN COUNTERING TERRORISM

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming the intention to maintain counter-terrorist activities among the priorities of the OSCE,

Acknowledging that States are primarily responsible for preventing and countering terrorism and for managing the consequences of terrorists acts, but should draw on the support of the business community and civil society as a whole to successfully counter those threats,

Reaffirming the fundamental importance, including in response to terrorism and the fear of terrorism, of respecting all human rights and fundamental freedoms and the rule of law and complying with applicable obligations under international law, in particular international human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law,

Recognizing the significance of public-private partnerships (PPPs) in countering terrorism, as highlighted in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, the G8 initiative to establish and foster anti-terrorist partnerships of States and the business community, its "Global Forum for Partnerships between States and Businesses to Counter Terrorism" (Moscow, November 2006) and the resulting International Strategy,

Welcoming the efforts of the OSCE, its Secretariat and institutions, to involve the private sector (civil society and the business community) in its counter-terrorist activities, and noting the Chairman-in-Office's summary of the OSCE Political Public-Private Partnership Conference held in Vienna in May/June 2007 (CIO.GAL/81/07/Corr.1),

Recognizing the role of media and educational institutions in encouraging pluralistic debate with a view to promoting ethnic, religious, linguistic and cultural diversity and countering violent extremism and radicalization leading to terrorism, and in this regard welcoming the work of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media and the ODIHR in these fields,

Acknowledging the usefulness of joint counter-terrorist efforts by government bodies and the private sector (civil society and the business community) in the form of voluntary co-operation, based upon the principles of partnership and mutual trust, in order to provide

better security and clear benefits to all parties. In this regard, efforts should particularly take due account of:

- Promoting economic stability and security and addressing the underlying factors, such as social, political, and conditions which terrorists exploit,
- Promoting tolerance, human rights, the rule of law, democracy, good governance and inter-cultural dialogue,
- Promoting public awareness and outreach through the media and educational institutions, while respecting cultural and religious diversity,
- Identifying, prioritizing, and protecting critical infrastructure and addressing preparedness/consequence management issues,
- Countering the financing of terrorism *inter alia* by supporting the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) and other relevant institutions,

Decides to:

1. Task the Secretary General and OSCE institutions to continue to promote the involvement of the private sector (civil society and the business community) in their counter-terrorist activities, where relevant and appropriate;
2. Task the Secretary General to organize in 2008 in Vienna, in co-ordination with the Chairmanship-in-Office and OSCE institutions, a follow-up OSCE PPP conference “Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the Business Community in Combating Terrorism”;
3. Invite participating States as well as the OSCE Partners for Co-operation to exchange information and best practices on PPPs in countering terrorism and task the Secretary General, upon receipt, to disseminate this information through the Counter-Terrorism Network.