

405th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 405, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 493
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE IRMA FUND**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its decision on improving the budgetary management of the Organization (PC.DEC/486, dated 28 June 2002),

Noting the Integrated Resource Management (IRMA) Project proposal (SEC.GAL/66/02/Rev.1, dated 12 July 2002),

Acknowledging the need to improve the OSCE's efficiency, effectiveness and transparency in the delivery of its administrative functions across the Secretariat, missions and institutions,

Recognizing the importance for the OSCE of having proper processes and tools for financial, material and human-resources management in order that the unified budget can become the key management tool for operational planning, implementation, evaluation and reporting for participating States,

Decides to:

- Establish a separate fund, hereinafter referred to as the IRMA Fund, for the development and implementation of the proposed Integrated Resource Management System (IRMA). The Fund will cover a project implementation period of three years with the balance carried forward from one year to the next;
- Allocate EUR 6.9 million to the IRMA Fund from the cash surplus from the financial year 2000 in accordance with the IRMA Project proposal (SEC.GAL/66/02/Rev.1, dated 12 July 2002);

Further decides that:

- Every effort will be made to ensure the project is completed in the most cost-effective manner;

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

Requests:

- The Secretary General to administer the Fund in accordance with Article VII of the Financial Regulations and to provide quarterly reports on the implementation of IRMA or at more frequent intervals if required;
- The informal Financial Committee (IFC) to establish a working group for the duration of the project for the purposes of oversight of the activities within the framework of the IRMA Project and of reporting on its progress, through the IFC, to the Permanent Council, as appropriate.

PC.DEC/493
25 July 2002
Attachment

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT
UNDER PARAGRAPH 79 (CHAPTER 6) OF THE
FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE HELSINKI CONSULTATIONS**

By the Delegation of the Russian Federation:

“In connection with the OSCE Permanent Council decision adopted today ‘on the establishment of the IRMA fund’, the Russian Federation wishes to make the following statement.

In agreeing to the further elaboration of the plan for the introduction of the Integrated Resource Management (IRMA) system, the Russian Federation is assuming that during the next stage the participating States will be presented with a more clearly defined concept by the Secretariat indicating how it envisages the development of information technologies and systems both at OSCE headquarters and at the Organization’s field missions. We hope to see a comprehensive and integrated approach to this serious, long-term and expensive project in order that we may avoid an unnecessary dissipation of resources, possible overlap and incompatibility of information programs. We are also requesting the Secretariat to provide the participating States with a more detailed business plan for the introduction of the IRMA system covering the financial outlays (cost of equipment, software, consultancy and expert services, etc.) and also a time-frame for implementing the various stages of the system having to do with human-resource management, bookkeeping, inventorying of material assets, etc., including an indication of the results expected from the rationalization and increased efficiency of production processes and the consequences in terms of the release of human resources.

The scope of the entire project must be strictly limited so that it can be covered out of the special fund that is being established for this purpose and which may not be further replenished by drawing exclusively on the budgetary resources that have been saved.

Any additional financial burden on the participating States as the programme is implemented is inadmissible. It is also important to provide for regular monitoring by the Permanent Council of the use of the funds and progress of the work during the entire period during which the IRMA system is being introduced and is in use.

The Russian Federation requests that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision of the OSCE Permanent Council.”