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REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE (16 November – 22 November)

Chairman-in-Office addresses the EAPC

BRUSSELS – OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel addressed the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council (EAPC) on 16 November. After the meeting he said that the OSCE had made great progress in budget talks and with the appointment of a new Secretary General. However, the Chairmanship is not over yet and certain decisions can be expected at the Ljubljana Ministerial Council, he stressed. Prior to the EAPC meeting, Chairman-in-Office held talks with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer.

Chairman-in-Office meets with Serbia and Montenegro's Foreign Minister

STRASBOURG - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel met with Serbia and Montenegro's Foreign Minister Vuk Drašković at the margins of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers's meeting in Strasbourg on 16 November. They discussed the future of Kosovo, and Serbia-Montenegro's integration into the EU and NATO. Chairman-in-Office told Foreign Minister Drašković he was aware that the final solution of the status of Kosovo would be a result of a compromise and bilateral talks between Belgrade and Priština.

JCC Meeting Important for building trust, Chairman-in-Office Says

BRDO PRI KRANJU - The Joint Control Commission (JCC) met at Brdo pri Kranju on 15 and 16 November. The meeting was important for building trust between the sides involved, OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel said as he addressed members of the Commission. In his address, Chairman-in-Office said that a number of concrete steps needed to be taken on the ground, including the implementation of demilitarisation and other agreements, in order to move closer to a solution for the conflict. Participants stressed that trust was the key to moving ahead with talks at a higher level and for implementing what has been agreed upon in the past.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

LJUBLJANA, 23 November - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to meet Armenian President Robert Kocharian, who will be visiting Slovenia.

BRUSSELS, 24 November - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to meet EU's High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana.

PIEŠTANY, 25 November - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to attend the Summit of the Central European Initiative.

SARAJEVO, 29 November - OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to attend international conference "Dayton - 10 years after: Conflict Resolution and Cooperation Perspectives" co-organized by Slovenian OSCE Chairmanship

LJUBLJANA, 5 & 6 December - 13th OSCE Ministerial Council 2005.