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## **Survey of OSCE Field Operations**

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## *Note*

The purpose of the Survey is to give an overview of the mandates and “technical data” relating to current and past OSCE Field Operations. It should also facilitate reference to official OSCE documents and decisions on the subject. It is designed for use by practitioners who are directly involved in the support of OSCE field activities, as well as by an interested public.

Direct quotations from official OSCE documents or other official documents related to the OSCE are in *italics*.

The Survey is available from the homepage of the OSCE at: <http://www.osce.org>.

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# OSCE Field Operations

## *South-Eastern Europe*

### The OSCE Presence in Albania

#### 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

108th Permanent Council, 27 March 1997, Decision No. 160.

Adjustment of the Mandate:

107th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/158, 20 March 1997.

108th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/160, 27 March 1997.

143rd Permanent Council, PC.DEC/206, 11 December 1997.

156th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/218, 11 March 1998.

Update of Mandate of the Presence:

488th Permanent Council, PC.DEC/588, 18 December 2003.

#### 2. Tasks

On the basis of the reports by the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Dr. Franz Vranitzky, on his visits to Albania on 8 and 14 March 1997, and following the Decision No. 158 (107th Plenary Meeting of 20 March 1997), the Permanent Council in its Decision No. 160 (108th Plenary Meeting of 27 March 1997) decided to *establish an OSCE presence in Albania in co-operation with the Albanian authorities and to provide the co-ordinating framework within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence, in support of a coherent international strategy, and in facilitating improvements in the protection of human rights and basic elements of civil society.*

*1. In co-operation with other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE will provide advice and assistance, in particular in the following fields:*

- *Democratization, the media and human rights;*
- *Election preparation and monitoring.*

*Furthermore, the OSCE will explore other possibilities, including monitoring the collection of weapons.*

*[...]*

*The overall co-ordination of the efforts of the international community will be ensured by Dr. Vranitzky as Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office. He will report to the Permanent Council on progress achieved.*

*2. The Permanent Council*



- *Has taken note of the official appeal made by the Albanian authorities to a group of countries for assistance in resolving the security situation in Albania;*
- *Expects any assistance to be given in accordance with the United Nations Charter and OSCE principles and in accordance with appropriate action by the United Nations Security Council;*
- *Expects to be informed on any further steps to be taken in this context.*

In Decision No. 206 of 11 December 1997 the Permanent Council made the following adjustments to its Decision No. 160 of 27 March 1997:

*The Permanent Council decides that:*

- *In co-operation with other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe, the OSCE will provide advice and assistance, in particular in the field of democratization, media and human rights;*
- *The flexible co-ordination of the efforts of the international community will be ensured by the OSCE Presence in Albania acting as a clearing-house for information on the international efforts in Albania.*

*Recalling Permanent Council Decisions Nos. 158, 160, 168, and 178, and taking into account the conclusions of the Rome and Brussels Conferences on Albania, the Permanent Council further decides:*

- *To continue to provide a flexible co-ordinating framework in concert with the Albanian Government within which other international organizations can play their part in their respective areas of competence, in support of a coherent international strategy;*
- *That there will be semi-annual reviews of the implementation of this mandate and of the work of the OSCE in Albania.*

In Decision No. 218, taken in a special session on the Kosovo crisis on 11 March 1998, the Permanent Council decided to temporarily enhance the monitoring capabilities of the OSCE Presence in Albania in order to allow for *adequate observation of the borders with Kosovo, FRY, and prevention of possible crisis spill over effects. The Head of Presence will report regularly on his observations.*

With the end of the Kosovo crisis in 1999, the border monitoring activities of the OSCE Presence were progressively downscaled and the border monitoring field stations were transformed into normal Field Stations.

In Decision No. 588 taken on 18 December 2003, the Permanent Council, recognizing the overall progress achieved in Albania in recent years, as well as the increased central position that the country's institutions have taken, decided to update the mandate of the OSCE Presence in Albania to reflect the developments which have taken place in the country.

Working in close consultation and co-operation with the Government of Albania, the OSCE Presence provides assistance and expertise in the following areas:

- Legislative and judicial reform, including property reform;
- Regional administrative reform;

- Electoral reform;
- Parliamentary capacity-building;
- Anti-trafficking and anti-corruption, including supporting the implementation of relevant national strategies;
- Development of effective laws and regulations on the independent media and its Code of Conduct;
- Promotion of good governance and targeted projects for strengthening of civil society; and
- Police assistance, in particular training for border police, within a co-ordinated framework with other international actors in the field.

### **3. Deployment**

The Presence started working in Tirana on 3 April 1997.

### **4. Duration**

On 29 November 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1355 in its 1249th Plenary Meeting prolonging the Presence's mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The total number of international posts is 19. The Mission also has 64.5 locally recruited posts thus totalling 83.5 altogether.

The Head of the Presence (since 1 October 2016) is Ambassador Bernd Borchardt of Germany.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Presence in Albania at EUR 2,981,200.

# The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

Permanent Committee, 2 June 1994, Journal No. 23

The 19th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 4 May 1995 (PC. DEC/40), decided to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Sarajevo until 31 December 1995.

Transformation:

The 5th Meeting of the Ministerial Council, Budapest, 8 December 1995 (MC(5).DEC/1), agreed that the Mission in Sarajevo would be expanded and reorganized into a distinct section of the new OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Terms of Reference: *ibid.*

General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Proximity Peace Talks. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Dayton, Ohio, November 1-21, 1995 (REF.PC/716/95/Rev.1)) (hereinafter: the Peace Agreement), Journal No. 93, Agenda item 6 (PC Decision No. 145)

## 2. Tasks

The initial tasks of the Mission in Sarajevo were outlined in Permanent Committee Journal No. 23, 2 June 1994, and consisted of the following elements:

- *assisting and advising the Ombudsmen as necessary;*
- *encouraging their mutual co-operation;*
- *providing logistic support, including the use by the Ombudsmen of the office equipment and communication facilities of the Mission;*
- *acting as a channel to forward the Ombudsmen's annual and ad hoc reports to the Chairman-in-Office;*
- *contacting local authorities as well as international and non-governmental organizations as necessary in relation to the Mission's operations; and*
- *reporting as appropriate to the CSCE on matters pertaining to the Human Dimension, in support of the Ombudsmen's activity.*

The tasks of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina are outlined in the Budapest Ministerial Council Decision MC (5). Dec/1, either directly or through reference to the Peace Agreement (see paragraph 9 of that Decision: *Establish a Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina [...] to carry out its tasks as requested by the Parties to the Agreement*), in the OSCE Lisbon Summit Declaration, the Conclusions of the Paris Ministerial Steering Board Meeting, the

London, Bonn and Madrid Peace Implementation Conferences, as well as in the PC Decision No. 145. According to this Decision, the tasks consist of the following elements:

- *taking into consideration the role of the High Representative as defined in the Peace Agreement and in the conclusions of the Paris Meeting as well as the need to co-operate with other international actors, the Mission concentrated on providing assistance for the preparation and conduct of municipal elections in 1997 and on providing assistance in the establishment of a permanent election commission, in accordance with Annex 3 of the Peace Agreement, with respect to the elections scheduled to close the consolidation period;*
- *democracy building and be active in human rights promotion and monitoring, in particular in support of the Ombudspersons throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina;*
- *assisting the Parties in implementation of regional stabilization measures; and*
- *co-ordinating closely with the Chairperson-in-Office and reporting to the Permanent Council regularly, at least every two months.*

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission in Sarajevo commenced working in October 1994 and was mandated to have a maximum composition of up to five members, including the Head of Mission. It had its headquarters in the same area where the offices of the Ombudsmen were located.

The Head of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina started work in Sarajevo on 29 December 1995, relying initially on the infrastructure of the existing OSCE Mission in Sarajevo.

The Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina has its Head Office in Sarajevo, and currently has eight Field Offices in the two entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, the Mission has an additional office in the Brčko District.

The OSCE and its Mission co-operate closely with the Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina/EUSR, Office of the High Representative, EUFOR, UNHCR, the Council of Europe and local NGOs, among others.

### **4. Duration**

The Mission in Sarajevo worked from October 1994 until December 1995, when, in line with Budapest Ministerial Council Decision, it was reorganized into a distinct section of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina. The mandate of the latter is being prolonged on an annual basis. On 19 December 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1361 in its 1253rd Plenary Meeting prolonging the Mission's mandate until 31 December 2020.

## **5. Composition**

The Mission currently has 314.5 posts, of which 36 are internationally and 278.5 locally recruited posts.

The Head of Mission (since September 2019) is Ambassador Kathleen Kavalec of the United States.

## **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina at EUR 11,682,000.

# The OSCE Mission in Kosovo<sup>1</sup>

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

Permanent Council Decision No. 305, 1 July 1999.

Terms of Reference:

Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998.

Permanent Council Decision No. 259, 15 October 1998.

NATO-FRY Agreement, 15 October 1998.

OSCE-FRY Agreement, 16 October 1998.

Permanent Council Decision No. 263, 25 October 1998. Interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations.

Permanent Council Decision No. 265, 5 November 1998.

Permanent Council Decision No. 266, 11 November 1998.

United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 of 10 June 1999;

UNSG Report, 12 June 1999 (S/1999/672);

Permanent Council Decision No. 305, 1 July 1999; and

Exchange of Letters between Ambassador Kim Traavik, Head of OSCE Department, Norwegian Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bernard Miyet, USG UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), 19 July 1999.

## 2. Tasks

Decision No. 305 of 1 July 1999 by the Permanent Council refers to the framework of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and to the report by the Secretary-General of the United Nations of 12 June 1999. It states that *the OSCE will contribute to the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1244, in particular the relevant parts of operative paragraph 11 of this resolution.*

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMIK) was established effective from 1 July 1999. The Mission constitutes a distinct component, or ‘pillar’, within the overall framework of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK).

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo, within this overall framework, takes the lead role in matters relating to institution building and human rights. It co-operates closely with other relevant organizations – intergovernmental and, as appropriate, non-governmental – in the planning and implementation of its tasks.

Currently, the OSCE Mission in Kosovo carries out activities in the following main areas: human and community rights monitoring and promotion, support to democratic institutions and good governance, and public safety and security.

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<sup>1</sup> All references to Kosovo institutions/leaders refer to the Provisional Institutions of Self Government.

### **3. Deployment**

The present OSCE Mission in Kosovo was preceded by the OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) and the Task Force for Kosovo (cf. under Chapter V. Closed Missions). On 1 July 1999, the Task Force for Kosovo was dissolved and replaced by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMIK) by PC.DEC/305.

The Mission Headquarters are located in Prishtinë/Priština; the Mission has created a network of five Regional Centres/Offices, in Mitrovicë/Mitrovica, Pejë/Peć, Prizren, Gjilan/Gnjilane and Prishtinë/Priština, which include over 30 municipal teams that cover all municipalities throughout Kosovo.

### **4. Duration**

In its Decision No. 382 on 20 November 2000, the Permanent Council decided to extend the mandate of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo for one year until 10 December 2001.

Subsequent prolongations were decided as following.

- 372nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/449, 10 December 2001: until 31 December 2002
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/515, 12 December 2002: until 31 December 2003
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/584, 18 December 2003: until 31 December 2004
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/646, 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/693, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/765, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007
- 694th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/835, 21 December 2007: until 31 January 2008.

The mandate of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo has been extended on a monthly basis since 31 January 2008.

### **5. Composition**

The total number of posts is currently 497, of which 117 are internationally and 380 locally recruited posts.

The Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (since 1 October 2016) is Ambassador Jan Braathu of Norway.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo at EUR 17,462,600.

## **The OSCE Mission to Montenegro**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

The Mission was established by Permanent Council Decision No. 732 of 29 June 2006.

### **2. Tasks**

As stipulated in its mandate, the tasks of the Mission are to:

- *assist and promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Montenegro with the OSCE, in all dimensions, including the politico-military, economic and environmental and human aspects of security and stability;*
- *facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairperson-in-Office, OSCE institutions, and as appropriate, OSCE field operations - particularly with those in South-Eastern Europe, as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions; and*
- *establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation.*

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission has its headquarters in Podgorica.

### **4. Duration**

Since the establishment of the Mission on 29 June 2006, the mandate has been extended annually. On 29 November 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1354 in its 1249th Plenary Meeting prolonging the Mission's mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The total number of posts is currently 32, of which nine are internationally and 23 locally recruited posts.

The Head of Mission (since 1 February 2017) is Ambassador Maryse Daviet of France.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro at EUR 2,152,100.



## The OSCE Mission to Serbia

### 1. Basic Decisions

The Mission was established as the OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia by Permanent Council Decision No. 401 of 11 January 2001. It was renamed the OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro by Permanent Council Decision No. 533 of 13 February 2003, and then the OSCE Mission to Serbia by Permanent Council Decision No. 733 of 29 June 2006.

### 2. Tasks

As stipulated in its mandate, the Mission, acting in close co-operation with the host government, will provide assistance and expertise to the authorities at all levels, as well as to interested individuals, groups and organizations, in the fields of democratization and the protection of human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In this context, and in order to promote democratization, tolerance, the rule of law and conformity with OSCE principles, standards and commitments, the Mission will also:

- *assist and advise on the full implementation of legislation in areas covered by the mandate;*
- *monitor the proper functioning and development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms;*
- *assist in the restructuring and training of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary;*
- *provide assistance and advice in the field of the media; and*
- *in close co-operation with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, provide advice and support in order to facilitate the return of refugees to and from neighbouring countries and from other countries of residence as well as of internally displaced persons to their homes within the territory of Serbia.*

In carrying out its tasks, the Mission will co-operate with and use the expertise of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities. The OSCE Secretariat's Conflict Prevention Centre will assist, *inter alia*, by organizing training workshops and seminars in the field of confidence- and security-building measures and other issues in the politico-military field.

The Mission will closely co-operate with the representation of the Council of Europe in Serbia in order to co-ordinate programmes and to efficiently plan joint projects. It will also co-ordinate with representatives of other international organizations and institutions in the host country, notably the European Commission, United Nations agencies, the International Committee of the Red Cross and relevant non-governmental organizations consistent with the Platform for Co-operative Security.

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission has its headquarters in Belgrade. It has an office in Bujanovac in southern Serbia and a training facility centre in Novi Pazar in south-western Serbia. The Mission ceased its on-site field support to the Basic Police Training Centre in Sremska Kamenica at the end of 2011 and withdrew its staff from the Centre. On the day of the establishment of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro in June 2006, the former Office in Podgorica was closed.

### **4. Duration**

The Mission's mandate has been extended annually, and on 28 November 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1353 at its 1249th Plenary Meeting prolonging the Mission's mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The Mission currently has 22 internationally and 102 locally recruited posts, totalling 124.

The Head of Mission (since 1 October 2016) is Ambassador Andrea Orizio of Italy.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Serbia at EUR 6,258,600.

# **The OSCE Mission to Skopje**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

### Establishment:

15th CSO Meeting, 14 August 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 1.

16th CSO Meeting, 18 September 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 1.

17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 3 “Articles of Understanding concerning the CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission”, 7 November 1992.

### Modalities:

Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998 (PC.DEC/218).

Permanent Council Decision No. 405, 22 March 2001 (PC.DEC/405).

Permanent Council Decision No. 414, 7 June 2001 (PC.DEC/414).

Permanent Council Decision No. 437, 6 September 2001 (PC.DEC/437/Corr.1).

Permanent Council Decision No. 439, 28 September 2001 (PC.DEC/439).

Permanent Council Decision No. 457, 21 December 2001 (PC.DEC/457).

Permanent Council Decision No. 524, 19 December 2002 (PC.DEC/524).

The decision to establish a CSCE Monitoring Mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia was taken in mid-1992 in the context of the efforts to extend the European Community Monitoring Mission (ECMM) to neighbouring countries of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to help avoid the spread of tension to their territories. A decision to explore with authorities in Skopje the possibility of dispatching similar missions under CSCE auspices was taken at the 15th Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) Meeting on 14 August 1992 (15-CSO/Journal No. 2, Annex 1).

The Steering Group on the Yugoslav Crisis worked out on 27 October 1992, the “Modalities and Financial Implications for the CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje” which were adopted by the open-ended Ad Hoc Group on 28 October 1992, and approved by the 17th Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) on 6 November 1992 (17-CSO/Journal No. 2, Annex 3).

“Articles of Understanding Concerning CSCE Spillover Monitor Mission” were exchanged on 7 November 1992 by means of a letter from the Minister of Foreign Relations of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Mr. Denko Maleski, to the Chairperson-in-Office of the Council of Ministers of the CSCE.

The OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje was renamed the OSCE Mission to Skopje by Permanent Council Decision No. 977 of 16 December 2010.

## **2. Tasks**

According to the Modalities and Financial Implications as approved at the 17th CSO Meeting, the objective of the Mission is to monitor developments along the borders of the host country with Serbia and in other areas of the host country which may suffer from spillover of the conflict in the former Yugoslavia, in order to promote respect for territorial integrity and the maintenance of peace, stability and security; and to help prevent possible conflict in the region.

The objective is specified in the mandate as consisting of the following tasks:

- *dialogue with the Governmental Authorities of the Host Party;*
- *establishment of contacts with representatives of political parties and other organizations, and with ordinary citizens;*
- *undertaking trips to assess the level of stability and the possibility of conflict and unrest;*
- *engaging in other activities compatible with the CSCE goals of the Mission as defined above;*
- *maintaining a high profile in the country; and*
- *in case of incidents, assisting in establishing the facts.*

The Permanent Council, in a special session on the Kosovo crisis on 11 March 1998, decided (PC.DEL/218) to temporarily enhance the monitoring capabilities of the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje in order to allow for *adequate observation of the borders with Kosovo, FRY, and prevention of possible crisis spillover effects. The Head of Mission will report regularly on his observations.*

On 22 March 2001 the Permanent Council, noting the reports of the Mission indicating an upsurge of violent actions by ethnic Albanian armed groups in the area of the northern border regions in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, decided to increase the size of the Mission by eight international personnel for a period of six months. *The additional staff members will work particularly in the border area, with a view to strengthening the capabilities of the Mission to monitor developments along the border and report, and perform other duties in accordance with the Mission's mandate.*

On 7 June 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the size of the Mission by ten international personnel (totalling 26).

On 6 September 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the size of the Mission by 25 international personnel (totalling 51). *They will monitor and report regularly on the security situation in the host State, including: the situation in the northern border areas including illicit arms trafficking; the humanitarian situation, including the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and trafficking in human beings; the situation in sensitive places with communities not in the majority; and cases of incidents and recurrence of hostilities. They will not monitor the arms collection process or conduct operations aimed exclusively at observing compliance with the ceasefire.*

On 28 September 2001, the Permanent Council decided to further increase the personnel of the Mission on the basis of the existing mandate, by 72 international confidence-building monitors and 60 police advisers and 17 police trainers; as well as ten international staff to deal with administrative and support matters:

*The monitors will contribute to the maintenance of stability and security in the country and to the building of general confidence amongst the population. They will report regularly on the security situation, including: the situation in the northern border areas including illicit arms trafficking; the humanitarian situation, including the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and trafficking in human beings; the situation in sensitive areas; and on cases of incidents and recurrence of hostilities.*

The police advisers were deployed to the sensitive areas, concurrently with the phased redeployment of the national police. *They will have no executive authority and are not to be seen as replacement for the national police or other lawful security forces in the host country. Their role would be to assist in ensuring a phased and co-ordinated redeployment by the national police. The police trainers will assist in the implementation of the Police Academy project.*

In addition to police matters and confidence-building activities, the Mission has been particularly active in media issues, decentralization and support to the Ombudsperson Institution.

### **3. Deployment**

The CSCE Spillover Monitoring Mission to Skopje started its work with an OSCE fact-finding visit to Skopje from 10 to 14 September 1992.

### **4. Duration**

According to the Modalities, the initial period of operation was at least six months. Since 2006, the mandate has been extended annually. On 28 November 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1352 at its 1249th Plenary Meeting prolonging the Mission's mandate until 31 December 2020.

The Articles of Understanding remain in force until notification of termination by either party, 15 days in advance.

### **5. Composition**

The OSCE Mission to Skopje has a total of 153.5 posts, of which 38 are internationally and 115.5 are locally recruited.

The Head of Mission (since September 2018) is Ambassador Clemens Koja of Austria.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Skopje at EUR 6,506,100.

## *Eastern Europe*

### **The OSCE Mission to Moldova**

#### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993, Journal No. 3, Annex 3.

Terms of Reference:

7th Meeting of the CSO Vienna Group, 11 March 1993, Annex 1.<sup>2</sup>

21st CSO Meeting, 28 April 1993, Journal No. 3 (Corrected reissue), Decision 5(k).

Permanent Council Decision No. 329, 9 December 1999 (PC.DEC/329).

#### **2. Tasks**

According to the CSO Decision from 4 February 1993, the objective of the Mission is to *facilitate the achievement of a lasting, comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in all its aspects [...], based on the consolidation of the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova within its current borders and reinforcement of the territorial integrity of the State along with an understanding about a special status for the Trans-Dniester region.*

The mandate, as described in the Terms of Reference, states the Mission should:

- *facilitate the establishment of a comprehensive political framework for dialogue and negotiations and assist the parties to the conflict in pursuing negotiations on a lasting political settlement of the conflict, consolidating the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Moldova along with an understanding about a special status for the Trans-Dniester region;*
- *gather and provide information on the situation, including the military situation, in the region, investigate specific incidents and assess their political implications;*
- *encourage the participating States concerned in pursuing negotiations on an agreement on the status and the early, orderly and complete withdrawal of foreign troops;*
- *provide advice and expertise, as well as a framework for other contributions, on such parts of a political settlement as effective observance of international obligations and commitments regarding human and minority rights, democratic transformation, repatriation of refugees, definition of a special status of the Trans-Dniester region; and*
- *initiate a visible CSCE presence in the region and establish contacts with all parties to the conflict, local authorities and local populations.*

At the 261st Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council on 9 December 1999, the scope of the mandate was expanded in accordance with paragraph 19 of the Istanbul Summit Declaration, “in terms of ensuring transparency of the removal and destruction of Russian ammunition and

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<sup>2</sup> Approved by the CSO Vienna Group on a preliminary basis only. The CSO gave final approval of the terms of reference at its 21st meeting on 28 April 1993 (Decision k).

armaments and co-ordination of financial and technical assistance offered to facilitate withdrawal and destruction”. In this regard, a fund for voluntary financial assistance was established in the OSCE Secretariat.

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission started to work in Chisinau on 25 April 1993; the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Moldova was signed on 7 May. The MoU was amended on 28 March 1996.

The Mission opened a branch office in Tiraspol on 13 February 1995.

### **4. Duration**

According to the MoU, the Mission was established for an initial period of six months from the date of signature. Since 2006, the mandate has been extended annually. On 19 December 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1362 at its 1253rd Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate of the Mission until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

According to the 1993 Terms of Reference, the authorized strength of the Mission is eight international staff members. Subsequent decisions of the Permanent Council brought the authorized strength of the Mission to currently 53 posts, of which 13 are internationally and 40 are locally recruited.

The Head of Mission (since 7 September 2018) is Dr. Claus Neukirch of Germany.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Mission to Moldova at EUR 2,302,700.

# **The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

Permanent Council Decision No. 295, 1 June 1999, PC Journal No. 231 (PC.DEC/295)

## **2. Tasks**

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 295 of 1 June 1999, and following the closure of the OSCE Mission to Ukraine, an OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine was established for the purpose of carrying out tasks related to the new form of co-operation between Ukraine and the OSCE. According to Permanent Council Decision No. 295, *this co-operation will be based on the planning, implementation and monitoring of projects between relevant authorities of Ukraine and the OSCE and its institutions. Such projects may cover all aspects of OSCE activities and may involve governmental as well as non-governmental bodies of Ukraine.*

## **3. Deployment**

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by the Ukrainian Government and the OSCE on 13 July 1999.

## **4. Duration**

The Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine was established on 1 June 1999 for an initial duration until 31 December 1999 with the possibility of prolongations for periods of six months. On 18 June 2020, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1370 at its 1272nd Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate of the Mission until 31 December 2020.

## **5. Composition**

In accordance with the MoU, the Co-ordinator's staff is composed of a core of internationally and locally hired staff, as well as internationally or locally hired experts and technical staff required for the implementation of the projects. The size of the Co-ordinator's expert staff may be changed as required by the projects. The total number of posts is currently 52, of which three are internationally and 49 are locally recruited.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine (since November 2018) is Ambassador Henrik Villadsen of Denmark.

## **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine at EUR 2,302,700.



# The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

## 1. Basic Decisions

Permanent Council Decision No. 1117, 21 March 2014, PC Journal No. 991 (PC.DEC/1117)

## 2. Tasks

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014, the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine was established with the aim of contributing to reducing tensions and fostering peace, stability and security; and to monitor and support the implementation of all OSCE principles and commitments.

Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 tasked the Mission, *operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency*, to:

- *Gather information and report on the security situation in the area of operation;*
- *Establish and report facts in response to specific incidents and reports of incidents, including those concerning alleged violations of fundamental OSCE principles and commitments;*
- *Monitor and support respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the rights of persons belonging to national minorities;*
- *In order to fulfil its tasks, to establish contact with local, regional and national authorities, civil society, ethnic and religious groups, and members of the local population;*
- *Facilitate the dialogue on the ground in order to reduce tensions and promote normalization of the situation;*
- *Report on any restrictions of the monitoring mission's freedom of movement or other impediments to fulfilment of its mandate; and*
- *Co-ordinate with and support the work of the OSCE executive structures, including the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, in full respect of their mandates, as well as co-operate with the United Nations, the Council of Europe and other actors of the international community.*

## 3. Deployment

In accordance with Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014, the advance teams started arriving in Kyiv on 22 March 2014. According to the same decision, monitors were subsequently deployed to Kherson, Odessa, Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnepropetrovsk, Chernivtsi and Luhansk. The head office was established in Kyiv. Any change in deployment is subject to a decision of the Permanent Council.

On 14 April 2014, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Ukrainian Government and the OSCE. On 3 June 2014, the President of Ukraine signed the Law on Ratification of the

Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the Government of Ukraine on the Deployment of the Special Monitoring Mission.

#### **4. Duration**

The Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine was established for an initial duration of six months, until 20 September 2014, with the possibility of prolongations.

In accordance with Permanent Council Decision No. 1129 of 22 July 2014, the Permanent Council decided to extend the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine for a further six months, i.e., from 21 September 2014 until 20 March 2015. The mandate was extended on 12 March 2015 until 31 March 2016 (PC.DEC/1162). The mandate was extended on 18 February 2016 until 31 March 2017 (PC.DEC/1199), on 16 March 2017 the mandate was extended until 31 March 2018 (PC.DEC/1246), on 22 March 2018 (PC.DEC/1289) until 31 March 2019, on 29 March 2019 (PC.DEC/1323) until 31 March 2020, and on 19 March 2020 (PC.DEC/1366) until 31 March 2021.

#### **5. Composition**

In accordance with Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014, the Special Monitoring Mission consisted initially of 100 civilian monitors but the Mission has expanded rapidly. PC.DEC/1366 on the extension of the mandate for the period 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 approved the financial and human resources requirements as presented in annex 1 and annex 2 of PC.ACMF/17/20 for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine as well as the arrangements contained in PC.ACMF/16/20. PC.ACMF/17/20 included a post table for a total of 1,550 posts.

The Chief Monitor (since 1 June 2019) is Ambassador Yaşar Halat Çevik of Turkey.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

The total budget for the Mission until the end of its current mandate (31 March 2021) is EUR 108,947,800, of which EUR 91,516,200 are assessed contributions and EUR 17,431,600 are voluntary contributions.

# **Observer Mission at the Russian checkpoints Gukovo and Donetsk**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

Permanent Council Decision No. PC.DEC/1130, 24 July 2014.

This Decision followed-up on the Berlin Declaration of 2 July 2014 in which the Foreign Ministers of Germany, France, the Russian Federation and Ukraine invited the OSCE to deploy OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints, in response to an invitation from the Russian Federation.

## **2. Tasks**

The observers, operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency, are tasked with monitoring and reporting on the situation at the checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo, as well as on the movements across the border.

## **3. Deployment**

OSCE observers were deployed following the invitation of the Russian Federation to deploy observers to the two Russian border checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo, as announced in the Berlin Joint Declaration of 2 July 2014 and extended in the letter of 14 July 2014 by the Russian Foreign Minister to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office. The Mission is based in the town of Kamensk-Shakhtinsky.

## **4. Duration**

On 22 October 2014, the mandate was extended for one month until 23 November 2014 (PC.DEC/1133). On 20 November 2014, the mandate was extended for another month until 23 December 2014 (PC.DEC/1135). This decision also expanded the Mission from 16 to 22 civilian observers operating 24/7 in teams, supported by a small logistic and administrative team. Since December 2014, the mandate has been extended for three-month periods. On 21 July 2017, the mandate was further extended until 31 October 2017 (PC.DEL/1264). On 19 October 2017 (PC.DEC/1268), the mandate was extended until 31 January 2018, and again on 25 January 2018 (PC.DEC/1286) for four months until 31 May 2018. On 3 May 2018 (PC.DEC/1291), the mandate was extended until 30 September 2018. On 30 August 2018 (PC.DEC/1304), the mandate was extended until 31 January 2019. On 29 November 2018 (PC.DEC/1308), the mandate was extended until 31 May 2019. On 2 May 2019 (PC.DEC/1328), the mandate was extended until 30 September 2019. On 5 September 2019, (PC.DEC/1344), the mandate was extended until 31 January 2020. On 14 May 2020, (PC.DEC/1368), the mandate was extended until 30 September 2020.

## **5. Composition**

The Mission is composed of 22 observers, including the Chief Observer, Ambassador György Varga of Hungary (appointed on 15 November 2017). The Mission is supported administratively by a staff member and the Chief of Fund Administration based in Vienna.

## **6. Financial Implications**

From the beginning of its mandate on 24 July 2014 until 23 March 2015 (initial deployment and then three mandate extensions), the Observer Mission was financed through a cash surplus from the 2013 Unified Budget totalling EUR 974,300. As of 24 March 2015 until 31 January 2016 (an additional three mandate extensions), the budget was financed from the 2014 year-end revision and partially from the 2014 provisional cash surplus in the amount of EUR 1,124,700. From 1 February 2016 until 30 April 2017, the Mission was funded from the 2014 provisional cash surplus in the total amount of EUR 1,501,800. The mandate extension of 6 April 2017 (PC.DEC/1249) authorized the use of EUR 301,100 from the 2014 and 2015 cash surpluses to fund the proposed budget until 31 July 2017. On 20 July 2017, the mandate was extended until 31 October 2017 and again on 19 October 2017, until 30 January 2018. In 2018, the mandate was extended on 25 January 2018 (PC.DEC/1286), which authorized EUR 420,000 from the 2016 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 31 May 2018. The mandate was then extended on 3 May 2018 (PC.DEC/1291), which authorized EUR 438,600 from the 2016 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 30 September 2018. The mandate was then extended on 30 August 2018 (PC.DEC/1304), which authorized the use of EUR 436,200 from the 2016 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 31 January 2019. The mandate was then extended on 29 November 2018 (PC.DEC/1308), which authorized EUR 419,000 from the 2016 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 31 May 2019. The mandate was then extended on 2 May 2019 (PC.DEC/1328), which authorized EUR 515,600 from the 2017 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 30 September 2019. The mandate was extended again on 5 September 2019 (PC.DEC/1344), which authorized the use of 477,600 euros from the 2018 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 31 January 2020. The mandate was subsequently extended on 14 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1368), which authorized the use of 468,000 euros from the 2018 cash surplus to fund the proposed budget for the duration of the mandate to 30 September 2020.

## *South Caucasus*

### **The Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference**

#### **1. Basic Decisions**

The Chairperson-in-Office appointed as of 10 August 1995 a Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference. The present Personal Representative (PR), Ambassador Andrzej Kasprzyk (Poland), was first appointed by the Chairperson-in-Office on 1 January 1997, having served as Acting Personal Representative since July 1996.

#### **2. Tasks**

The Personal Representative's mandate from the Chairperson-in-Office is to:

- *represent the OSCE Chairman-in-Office in issues related to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, assist the CiO in achieving an agreement on the cessation of the armed conflict and in creating conditions for the deployment of an OSCE peace-keeping operation, in order to facilitate a lasting comprehensive political settlement of the conflict in all its aspects;*
- *report on all aspects of his activities to the CiO of the OSCE, report through the CiO to the Co-Chairmanship of the OSCE Minsk Conference and, as appropriate, to the Minsk Group, and receive instructions from the CiO;*
- *assist the Co-Chairmanship at its request;*
- *assist the High-Level Planning Group in planning an OSCE peace-keeping operation in accordance with the Budapest Summit Decisions;*
- *assist the parties in implementing and developing confidence-building, humanitarian and other measures facilitating the peace process, in particular by encouraging direct contacts; and*
- *co-operate, as appropriate, with representatives of the United Nations and other international organizations operating in the area of conflict.*

#### **3. Deployment**

In accordance with a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Georgia, an office in Tbilisi was established in order to facilitate the movements and activities of the PR and his/her field assistants. The field assistants are present on a rotating basis in Baku, Yerevan and Stepanakert/Khankendi.

#### **4. Duration**

No limitations as to the duration of the Personal Representative's mandate have been set.

#### **5. Composition**

In addition to the Personal Representative, there are five internationally recruited and 11 locally recruited posts, totalling 17 posts.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the Personal Representative at EUR 1,179,700.

## *Central Asia*

### **The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat**

#### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

Permanent Council, 23 July 1998, Journal No. 179, Agenda item 4 (PC.DEC/244).

#### **2. Tasks**

In its Decision of 23 July 1998 the Permanent Council, recalling its Decision No. 231 of 11 June 1998 and welcoming the willingness of the Government of Turkmenistan to intensify OSCE activities in that country, decided that the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat will perform the following tasks:

- *Facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, other OSCE institutions and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*
- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs;*
- *Assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations, as well as other events with OSCE participation; and*
- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between Turkmenistan and the OSCE.*

#### **3. Deployment**

The Centre started working in Ashgabat in January 1999.

#### **4. Duration**

The Centre's mandate is open-ended.

#### **5. Composition**

The OSCE Centre in Ashgabat has six international posts, and 23 locally recruited posts (29 in total). The Head of Centre (since July 2016) is Ambassador Natalya Drozd of Belarus.

## **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat at EUR 1,661,200.



## The OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek

### 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: PC.DEC/245, 23 July 1998.

Additions: PC.DEC/339, 10 February 2000, PC.DEC/947, 22 July 2010 and PC.DEC/961, 18 November 2010.

By PC.DEC/1238 of 27 January 2017 the Permanent Council decided to rename the OSCE Centre in Bishkek to the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek starting from 1 May 2017 and to revise the mandate.

Revision of Mandate: PC.DEC/1250, 27 April 2017.

### 2. Tasks

In its Decision of 23 July 1998 the Permanent Council, recalling its Decision No. 231 of 11 June 1998 and welcoming the willingness of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic to intensify OSCE activities in that country, decided that the OSCE Centre in Bishkek will perform certain tasks. In its Decision of 27 April 2017 the Permanent Council decided that the OSCE Centre in Bishkek is transformed into the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek, with effect from 1 May 2017. The Office shall *develop, implement and report on programmatic activities... previously agreed upon in the framework of a consultative mechanism between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Office; which [a]re to be conducted on the basis of a strong mutual understanding and carried out on the basis of an annual plan of programmes and projects jointly developed by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic and the Office... All programmes and projects, including those financed from extrabudgetary sources, are to be implemented in close co-operation and consultation with the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.*

The following are priority areas:

- *Transnational threats and law enforcement co-operation, with an emphasis on security sector governance, the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, and the fight against organized crime and drug trafficking;*
- *The fight against corruption and money laundering...transport and border and customs control, environmental protection, water management issues and natural disaster reduction; and*
- *Cultural rights and the rule of law, and the fight against human trafficking; and strengthening democratic institutions, the electoral system, freedom of expression and civil society development... and projects on gender equality as a cross-dimensional issue.*

In addition, regional projects shall be agreed on with the Kyrgyz Government; the number of international and national staff of the Office shall be agreed on by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and the Office will agree on a strategy to gradually handover managerial positions to competent local staff members.

### **3. Deployment**

The Centre became operational in Bishkek in January 1999. The Field Office started working in Osh in April 2000 and closed in 2017 following revision of the mandate.

### **4. Duration**

The Centre's mandate was initially open-ended. In 2003, the Permanent Council decided to change it into a yearly-renewable mandate. On 19 December 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1360 at its 1253rd Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The total number of posts is 123, of which 13 are international and 110 are local.

The Head of the Programme Office in Bishkek (since 14 October 2016) is Ambassador Dr. Pierre von Arx of Switzerland.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the Programme Office in Bishkek at EUR 6,811,000.

## The OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe

### 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

The OSCE Mission to Tajikistan was established with Decision I.4 at the 4th Meeting of the Council, Rome, 1 December 1993.

Change of mandate and change of name to the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe: PC.DEC/500/Corr.1, 31 October 2002.

The mandate of the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe expired on 30 June 2008.

The OSCE Office in Tajikistan was established by Permanent Council Decision No. 852 on 19 June 2008, replacing the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe.

Revision of Mandate: PC.DEC/1251, 1 June 2017, which renamed the Office as the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe, with effect from 1 July 2017.

### 2. Tasks

The Permanent Council, on 1 June 2017, decided that the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe shall be active in the following areas:

- *Promotion of the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments, as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Tajikistan within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions;*
- *Assisting the Republic of Tajikistan in its efforts to ensure security and stability through, inter alia, further police reform, countering and preventing terrorism and violent extremism, combating organized crime and drug trafficking, tackling other transnational threats and challenges, and addressing OSCE commitments within the framework of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation;*
- *Supporting the efforts of the Republic of Tajikistan aimed at further economic and environmental development through, inter alia, further improvement of business and trade opportunities, development of energy and transport, good governance and combating corruption, as well as the protection of the environment, water resource management and disaster risk reduction;*
- *Assisting the Republic of Tajikistan in, inter alia, further developing civil society, human rights and the rule of law, gender equality, strengthening democratic institutions, and freedom of the media;*
- *Facilitation of contacts and promotion of an information exchange with the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office and OSCE structures;*
- *Liaison and close co-operation with the other OSCE field operations in the Central Asian region in order to maintain the coherence of the regional approach of the OSCE, and implementation of relevant activities to that end; and*

- *Continuation of efforts aimed at building national capacity and expertise within its area of responsibility in order to facilitate an efficient transfer of tasks to the Republic of Tajikistan.*

In addition,

- the activities shall be carried out on the basis of a jointly developed annual plan; all programmes and projects, including those financed from extrabudgetary sources, are to be implemented in close co-operation and consultation with the Government of Tajikistan;
- the Office shall ensure full transparency in the use of budgetary resources, including extrabudgetary resources: it shall provide the host State the Unified Budget Proposal, Programme Budget Performance Report, OSCE Report, Financial Statements and the Report of the External Auditor according to a time schedule of regular consultations to be agreed upon with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- the Office will perform its tasks in full respect of the national legislation and will provide regular reports to the Permanent Council related to the implementation of its mandate; and
- existing operational modalities (Task Force) shall be reviewed and mutually agreed on between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Tajikistan and the Office.

A new separate Memorandum of Understanding between the parties shall be agreed.

This mandate first applied until 31 December 2017 and its extension or any amendments to it is subject to a new decision of the Permanent Council to be taken on the basis of an annual review by the Permanent Council of the activities of the OSCE field presence in Dushanbe and the relevance of its mandate to current realities.

### **3. Deployment**

The OSCE Mission to Tajikistan (later the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe/OSCE Office in Tajikistan) was established in June 1994. With effect from 1 July 2017, the OSCE Office in Tajikistan was renamed the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe and the five Field Offices (in Khujand, Kurgan-Tyube, Garm, Kulyab and Shaartuz) were closed.

### **4. Duration**

The mandate has been extended annually. On 19 December 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1365 at its 1253rd Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The Head of the Programme Office in Dushanbe (since 11 May 2019) is Ambassador Valeriu Chiveri of Moldova. The total number of international posts is currently 22 with 110 local posts. The total number of staff is 132.

## **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe at EUR 7,311,600.

## The OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan

### 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: PC.DEC/243, 23 July 1998.

Revision of Mandate: PC.DEC/797, 21 June 2007.

Revision of Mandate, PC.DEC/1153/Corr.1, 18 December 2014.

### 2. Tasks

In its 1031st Plenary Meeting on 18 December 2014, the Permanent Council decided to revise the mandate and to rename the OSCE Centre in Astana to the OSCE Programme Office in Astana (PC.DEC/1153/Corr1). The mandate entrusted the OSCE Programme Office in Astana with the following tasks:

- *To develop, implement and report on programmatic activities within all three OSCE dimensions... designed to assist the host country in the implementation of OSCE commitments... and requested by the relevant authorities or civil society of Kazakhstan and in consent with its Ministry of Foreign Affairs [to] implement projects in the following priority areas:*
- *Transnational threats to security, focusing on the fight against terrorism and violent extremism, combating organized crime and drug trafficking, or combating trafficking in human beings;*
- *Politico-military dimension, focusing on regional security or OSCE commitments in the framework of the Forum for Security Co-operation;*
- *Economic and environmental dimension, focusing on good governance; the fight against corruption and money-laundering; public and private partnerships; development of small and medium enterprises; transport, border crossing and customs control; energy security; management of water resources; protection of the environment; disaster risk reduction; or needs of landlocked developing countries;*
- *Human dimension, focusing on the development of civil society, rule of law, the election system, freedom of the media, or rights of persons belonging to national minorities;*
- *Regional projects in any of the above-mentioned areas which may include assistance in arranging OSCE regional events, visits to the area by OSCE delegations, or other events with OSCE participation; and*
- *The Office shall facilitate contacts and develop relationships between the authorities, civil society and academic institutions of Kazakhstan on the one hand and the Chairmanship-in-Office and relevant OSCE executive structures on the other, as well as maintain contacts with the central and local authorities, civil society and academic institutions of Kazakhstan and concerned international organizations.*

Following the 20 March 2019 change in the name of the capital of Kazakhstan from Astana to Nur-Sultan, the OSCE Programme Office in Astana became the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan.

### **3. Deployment**

The OSCE Centre in Almaty started working in January 1999. A small liaison office was set up in Almaty in March 2003. In the first half of 2007, the Centre moved to Astana, having maintained a liaison office in Almaty. In December 2013, the liaison office in Almaty was relocated to Astana where the Centre continued its activities across all three dimensions until 31 December 2014. The OSCE Centre in Astana was transformed into the OSCE Programme Office in Astana on 1 January 2015. It was renamed the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan after the change in the name of the capital of Kazakhstan on 20 March 2019.

### **4. Duration**

The OSCE Centre's mandate was initially open-ended. In 2001, it was decided to change it into a yearly-renewable mandate. Through Permanent Council Decision No. 462, adopted at its 375th Plenary Meeting on 21 December 2001, the mandate of the Centre was extended for one year until 31 December 2002 and extended in the following years (the Programme Office started in 2015). On 19 December 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1364 at its 1253rd Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The Programme Office in Nur-Sultan is led by a Head of Programme Office supported by a Deputy Head of Programme Office and a team of three international experts covering all three OSCE dimensions. Since 2007, the Programme Office has an internationally contracted Chief of Fund Administration. The total number of posts is 28, of which six are international and 22 are local.

The Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan (since February 2016) is Ambassador György Szabó of Hungary.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the Programme Office in Nur-Sultan at EUR 2,232,700.

## **The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

The OSCE Centre in Tashkent was established by the Permanent Council, 14 December 2000, Journal No. 314, Agenda item 7, PC.DEC/397.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was established by Permanent Council Decision No. 734 of 30 June 2006.

### **2. Tasks**

In its Decision of 14 December 2000, the Permanent Council recalled its Decisions Nos. 28 of 16 March 1995, 118 of 9 May 1996, and 231 of 11 June 1998; took into account the expanded presence of the OSCE in Central Asia in line with Decisions Nos. 243, 244, 245, all of 23 July 1998; decided to change the name of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia (CALO) to the OSCE Centre in Tashkent; recognized the change of the focus of the activities of CALO; and welcomed the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to continue its intensive co-operation with the OSCE.

In its Decision of 30 June 2006, the Permanent Council recalled its Decisions Nos. 397 of 14 December 2000 and 714 of 22 December 2005; took into account the work carried out since the establishment of CALO in 1995, and subsequently the OSCE Centre in Tashkent in 2000; and welcomed the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to further improve links with the OSCE.

The Permanent Council decided:

With a view to the further development and consolidation of project activities of the OSCE in Uzbekistan, to establish as a new form of co-operation between the OSCE and the Republic of Uzbekistan, starting 1 July 2006, an OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan, for the period until 31 December 2006 with the possibility of subsequent extensions for one year periods;

To determine for the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan the following tasks:

- *To assist the Government of Uzbekistan in its efforts to ensure security and stability, including fighting against terrorism, violent extremism, illegal drug trafficking and other transnational threats and challenges;*
- *To support the efforts of the Government of Uzbekistan with regard to further socio-economic development and the protection of the environment in the Republic of Uzbekistan;* and
- *To assist the Government of Uzbekistan in the implementation of OSCE principles and of its commitments taken within the OSCE framework, including those related to the development of civil society, as well as in the development of co-operation between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the OSCE.*



### **3. Deployment**

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 397 of 14 December 2000, the formal basis for the operation of the Centre in Tashkent would, *mutatis mutandis*, be the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of 12 July 1995 between the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the Permanent Council Decisions referred to above. The premises and assets of CALO were carried over to the Centre in Tashkent. After the establishment of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan on 1 July 2006, a new MoU was subsequently agreed upon between the Secretary General of the OSCE and Uzbekistan.

### **4. Duration**

Permanent Council Decision No. 661 of 3 February 2005 decided to make the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent a renewable one and approved the mandate until 31 December 2005. The Permanent Council decided to hold annual reviews of the implementation of the mandate and the activities of the Centre. Permanent Council Decision No. 714 of 22 December 2005 extended the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent until its expiry on 31 June 2006, when the Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan was established.

On 30 June 2006, the Permanent Council decided to establish the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan with a mandate to operate until 31 December 2006 with the possibility of subsequent extensions for one-year periods. On 28 November 2019, the Permanent Council adopted PC.DEC/1351 at its 1249th Plenary Meeting prolonging the mandate until 31 December 2020.

### **5. Composition**

The OSCE Centre in Tashkent was led by a Head of Centre assisted by a team of three experts seconded by OSCE participating States. The last Head of Centre was Ambassador György Szabó of Hungary.

The Project Co-ordinator's Office has four international and 35 local posts, totaling 39 posts.

The OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan (since May 2016) is Ambassador John MacGregor of Canada.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan at EUR 2,499,200.

# **ANNEX I - Other OSCE Field-Related Activities**

## **OSCE Activities regarding the Conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference**

### **Minsk Process**

#### **1. Basic Documents**

The Helsinki Additional Meeting of the CSCE Council on 24 March 1992 requested the Chairperson-in-Office to convene as soon as possible a conference in Minsk on Nagorno-Karabakh under the auspices of the CSCE to provide an ongoing forum for negotiations towards a peaceful settlement of the crisis on the basis of the principles, commitments and provisions of the CSCE.

On 6 December 1994, the Budapest Summit decided to establish a co-chairmanship for the process. The Heads of State or Government expressed their political will to deploy multinational peacekeeping forces as an essential part of the overall settlement of the conflict.

Implementing the Budapest decision, the Chairperson-in-Office issued on 23 March 1995 the mandate for the Co-Chairs of the Minsk Process (DOC. 525/95).

#### **2. Tasks**

These include:

- *make joint efforts in order to strengthen the cease-fire;*
- *develop a common basis for negotiations with the parties to the conflict;*
- *promote direct contacts, as appropriate, including substantial talks. among the parties to the conflict;*
- *continue working with the parties to the conflict on confidence-building measures, particularly in the humanitarian field, synchronizing them with the political process;*
- *assist the Chair[person]-in-Office in developing a plan for the establishment, composition and operation of a multinational OSCE peace-keeping force.*

#### **3. Deployment**

The Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group (see below) visit the region to conduct talks with the parties to the conflict. They also hold meetings with the Chairperson-in-Office and the members of the Minsk Group to brief them on the process.

#### **4. Duration**

The Minsk Process can be considered to be successfully concluded if the objectives referred to above are fully met.

## **5. Composition**

The Minsk Process is supported by the OSCE Minsk Group and co-chaired by France, the Russian Federation and the United States. The permanent members of the Minsk Group include the following participating States: Belarus, Germany, Italy, Sweden, Finland, Turkey, as well as Armenia and Azerbaijan and the current OSCE Troika.

The current Co-Chairs of the Minsk Group are: Ambassador Stéphane Visconti of France, Ambassador Igor Popov of the Russian Federation and Mr. Andrew Schofer of the United States.

The Minsk Conference is to be attended by the members of the Minsk Group. The Conference will be headed by the Co-Chairs.

## **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the Minsk Process at EUR 911,200.

## **High-Level Planning Group**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

The High-Level Planning Group (HLPG) was established in accordance with the Decisions of the Budapest Summit of Heads of State or Government of the participating States of the CSCE 1994, with the aim of intensifying action in relation to the conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference.

### **2. Tasks**

In accordance with its mandate, adopted by the Chairperson-in-Office (CiO) on 23 March 1995, the HLPG is tasked:

- *To make recommendations for the Chairperson-in-Office on developing as soon as possible a plan for the establishment, force structure requirements and operation of a multinational OSCE peacekeeping force;*
- *To make recommendations on, inter alia, the size and characteristics of the force, command and control, logistics, allocation of units and resources, rules of engagement and arrangements with contributing States.*

These tasks have been supplemented by Directives of successive CiOs.

### **3. Deployment**

The HLPG is located in Vienna.

### **4. Duration**

No limitations as to the duration of the HLPG's mandate have been set.

### **5. Composition**

Lieutenant Colonel Sulo Mustafaraj of Albania has been the Head of the HLPG since 1 January 2020. The HLPG consists of eight posts, which are occupied by military staff seconded by OSCE participating States, as well as one locally recruited, administrative post.

### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the High-Level Planning Group at EUR 247,600.

## OSCE Assistance in Implementation of Bilateral Agreements

### The OSCE Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners

#### 1. Basic Decisions

On 30 April 1994 Latvia and Russia signed an Agreement *on the Social Welfare of Retired Military Personnel of the Russian Federation and their Family Members Residing on the Territory of the Republic of Latvia*.

Article 2 of the above Agreement stipulates that *questions relating to the application of its provisions, including the stipulated rights of persons to whom the agreement applies, may be submitted by either Party for joint consideration by authorized representatives appointed for this purpose by the Latvian Party and the Russian Party, as well as by the representative or representatives of the CSCE*.

At the 27th CSO Meeting on 15 June 1994, participating States welcomed requests made by Latvia and Russia for CSCE assistance in the implementation of the above Agreement and asked the Permanent Committee to work out the necessary modalities.

Establishment:

Permanent Council Decision No. 17, 23 February 1995.

#### 2. Tasks

At its 9th Plenary Meeting on 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council reached a decision (PC.DEC/17) on the modalities for the *OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative*<sup>3</sup>, mandated with the following tasks:

- *to consider, together with the representatives of the Latvian and Russian Parties, appeals on matters involving the rights of persons to whom the Agreement applies;*
- *to participate in the adoption of recommendations and decisions on the basis of consensus;*
- *to consider, at the request of either of the Parties, questions relating to the application of the provisions of the Agreement and the Protocol thereto, including the rights of the persons to whom the Agreement applies, as laid down therein.*

#### 3. Deployment

In Decision No. 17 of 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council stipulated that the OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative are appointed by the Chairperson-in-Office, with the approval of the Parties. In the course of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Latvia they may be chosen from among the personnel of the Mission.

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<sup>3</sup> This decision supersedes an earlier decision adopted by the Permanent Committee on 30 June 1994 on the same subject.

During the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Latvia, the office of the OSCE Representative and Alternate Representative were co-located with the OSCE Mission.

#### **4. Duration**

No limitations as to the duration of the Representative's work have been set.

#### **5. Composition**

Effective 1 January 2018, Dr. Volker Frobarth (Germany) was appointed by the OSCE Chairmanship as the OSCE Representative to the Joint Commission, replacing Mr. Helmut Napiontek.

#### **6. Financial Implications**

The OSCE Unified Budget for 2020, adopted on 28 May 2020 (PC.DEC/1369), established the budget of the Representative to the Latvian-Russian Joint Commission on Military Pensioners at EUR 5,500.

# ANNEX II - Closed Field Operations and Related Field Activities

## The OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina

### 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

15th CSO Meeting, 14 August 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 1

Modalities:

16th CSO Meeting, 18 September 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 1

17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 3<sup>4</sup>

18th CSO Meeting, 13 December 1992, Journal No. 3 (Decision 5k)

Decisions of the Ministerial Council, Stockholm, 14 – 15 December 1992 (paragraph 8 of Section 1 “Former Yugoslavia”)

19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993, Journal No. 3 (Decision 5a)

315th Permanent Council Decision No. 401, 11 January 2001

### 2. Tasks

The mandate, as contained in the CSO Decision of 14 August 1992 and reiterated in the MoU, consisted of four parts:

- *promote dialogue between authorities concerned and representatives of the populations and communities in the three regions [Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina];*
- *collect information on all aspects relevant to violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and promote solutions to such problems;*
- *establish contact points for solving problems that might be identified;*
- *assist in providing information on relevant legislation on human rights, protection of minorities, free media and democratic elections.*

The Modalities and Financial Implications, adopted by the CSO on 6 November 1992, gave a more detailed account of the tasks for each of the three regions.

### 3. Deployment

The Missions started their work on 8 September 1992; the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed on 28 October 1992 in Belgrade.

The Mission to Kosovo was based in Pristina (with a permanent presence in Pec and Prizren), the Mission to Sandjak in Novi Pazar (with a permanent presence in Prijepolje), and the Mission to Vojvodina in Subotica. The Missions had a common office in Belgrade.

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<sup>4</sup> As worked out and preliminarily agreed upon by the CSCE Ad Hoc Group.

The Missions were withdrawn in July 1993 after expiration of the MoU, since the FRY authorities refused the CSCE's request to prolong it.

In a special session on Kosovo on 11 March 1998, the Permanent Council decided (PC.DEC/218) to call on FRY authorities:

*To accept without preconditions, an immediate return of the OSCE missions of long duration to Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina, noting the return of these missions as essential for future participation in the OSCE by the FRY.*

In its Decision No. 401 of 11 January 2001, the Permanent Council, taking into account United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and welcoming the invitation of the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia for an OSCE Mission decided to establish an OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. With this Decision, the OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina were formally closed.

#### **4. Duration**

According to the MoU the duration of the Missions was limited to an initial period of six months from the beginning of their activities; extension of this period was subject to mutual agreement by the Parties. In a Protocol signed by the Government of the FRY (Serbia and Montenegro) and the Head of Mission on 29 April 1993, the period was extended until 28 June 1993. There was no further agreement on extension thereafter.

#### **5. Composition**

In the Modalities and Financial Implications, the size of the Missions was limited to 12 members, to be supplemented as required. An increase to 20 members was authorized at the 17th CSO Meeting in November 1992, and a doubling to 40 members was authorized by the CSO Vienna Group in January 1993. In reality however, the Missions never exceeded a total of 20 members.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Tore Bøgh, Norway. Afterwards, the functions of the Head of Mission were carried out by the Chairperson-in-Office.



# The OSCE Mission to Georgia

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

17th CSO Meeting, 6 November 1992, Journal No. 2, Annex 2

Modalities:

14th Permanent Committee Meeting, 29 March 1994, Journal 14/Revised, Annex 1<sup>5</sup>

Permanent Council Decision No. 115, 24 April 1996 (PC.DEC/115)

Permanent Council Decision No. 334, 15 December 1999 (PC.DEC/334)

Permanent Council Decision No. 450, 13 December 2001 (PC.DEC/450)

Permanent Council Decision No. 523, 19 December 2002 (PC.DEC/523)

Permanent Council Decision No. 668, 14 April 2005 (PC.DEC/668)

Permanent Council Decision No. 861, 18 August 2008 (PC.DEC/861)

The mandate of the Mission to Georgia expired on 31 December 2008.

Military Monitoring Officers of the OSCE Mission to Georgia continued to operate in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia until 30 June 2009 under a separate mandate adopted by the Permanent Council under Decision No. 883 of 12 February 2009 (PC.DEC/883).

## 2. Tasks

According to the original Modalities and Financial Implications approved at the 18th CSO Meeting on 13 December 1992<sup>6</sup>, the objective of the Mission was *to promote negotiations between the conflicting parties in Georgia which are aimed at reaching a peaceful political settlement.*

At the 14th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 29 March 1994, new Modalities were decided for an expanded CSCE Mission to Georgia, based on recommendations submitted by the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office in accordance with the Decisions of the Rome Council, which provided for a strengthening of the Mission. The original objective was complemented by a series of new objectives, namely *to promote respect for human rights and assist in democratic institution building throughout the country; to monitor and promote free media principles; to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned and, with their consent, to monitor the joint peacekeeping forces established under the Sochi Agreement of 24 June 1992, in order to assess whether their activities are carried out in conformity with CSCE principles, in particular those mentioned in chapter II, 3 of the Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting.*

The above objectives for the expanded Mission are specified in a mandate consisting of the following points:

1) In relation to the Georgian-Ossetian conflict:

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<sup>5</sup> Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 1 April 1994, at 12 noon, without an objection.

<sup>6</sup> As adopted on a preliminary basis by the Consultative Committee on 23 November 1993.

- *facilitate the creation of a broader political framework, in which a lasting political settlement (...) can be achieved on the basis of CSCE principles and commitments;*
- *intensify discussions with all parties to the conflict, including through the organisation of round tables, in order to identify and seek to eliminate sources of tension and extend political reconciliation throughout the area of conflict.*

*Make recommendations regarding the early convening of an international conference under CSCE auspices and with the participation of the United Nations, aimed at the resolution of the conflict, including the definition of the political status of Southern Ossetia;*

- *in pursuit of the monitoring role concerning the joint peacekeeping forces, establish appropriate forms of contact with the military commanders of the forces within the overall context of the CSCE negotiating efforts, gather information on the military situation, investigate violations of the existing cease-fire and call local commanders' attention to possible political implications of specific military actions;*
- *be actively involved in the reconvened Joint Control Commission in order to facilitate co-operation with and among the parties concerned;*
- *establish contact with local authorities and representatives of the population and maintain a visible CSCE presence throughout the area.*

2) In relation to the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict:

- *ensure liaison with the United Nations operations in Abkhazia, in order to follow events closely and report regularly to the CSCE, inter alia with a view to facilitating the participation of the representative of the Chairman-in-Office, at the invitation of the United Nations, to the negotiations carried out under United Nations auspices.*

3) In relation to Georgia as a whole:

- *promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and assist in the development of legal and democratic institutions and processes, including providing advice on the elaboration of a new constitution, the implementation of a legislation on citizenship and the establishment of an independent judiciary as well as monitoring elections;*
- *co-ordinate these activities with the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and the ODIHR and co-operate with the Council of Europe, keeping also in touch with other international organizations active in Georgia in this field.*

In addition, at the 262nd Plenary Meeting on 15 December 1999, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to expand the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Georgia to include a Border Monitoring Operation (BMO) (PC.DEC/334) *in order to observe and report on movement across the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation, both by vehicle and on foot.* At the 373rd Plenary Meeting on 13 December 2001, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to expand the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Ingush Republic of the Russian Federation (PC.DEC/450). At the 427th Plenary Meeting on 19 December 2002, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to further expand the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Dagestan Republic of the Russian Federation (PC.DEC/523).

Also, at the 550th Plenary Meeting on 14 April 2005, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Training Assistance Programme (TAP) (PC.DEL/108/05/Rev.6) *in order to support the Georgian border guards in strengthening their border-management capacities and capabilities.*

Furthermore, at the 642nd Plenary Meeting on 29 June 2006, the OSCE Permanent Council tasked the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the Capacity Building Programme (CBP) (PC.DEC/731) *in order to support the Georgian Border Police in the strengthening of their border management capabilities.*

Following the August 2008 conflict in Georgia at the 728th Plenary Meeting on 18 August 2008, the OSCE Permanent Council, *striving to contribute to the full implementation of the six principles included in the agreement proposed by the French and Russian Presidents* decided to increase for a minimum period of six calendar months the number of Military Monitoring Officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia by up to one hundred of whom twenty will be deployed immediately in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia, while the rest of the additional Military Monitoring Officers will be deployed subject to a new decision of the Permanent Council on the modalities of the Military Monitoring Officers (PC.DEC/861). At the 750th Plenary Meeting on 12 February 2009, the OSCE Permanent Council decided to extend until 30 June 2009 its Decision No. 861 of 19 August 2008 (PC/DEC/883).

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission started to work on 3 December 1992. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Georgia was signed on 23 January 1993, and the MoU with the leadership of the South Ossetian side was agreed by an exchange of letters on 1 March 1993.

The Mission operated throughout Georgia from the Headquarters established in Tbilisi. The Modalities of 29 March 1994 provided for a branch office in Tskhinvali, which became operational on 22 April 1997.

In 1997, a MoU was signed between the OSCE and the UN Human Rights Office in Abkhazia, Georgia, where one (at times two) OSCE officer was deployed. The MoU enabled the OSCE Mission to Georgia to implement the relevant parts of its mandate relating to the monitoring of the human rights situation in Abkhazia, while supporting the activities of the UN Human Rights Office in the region.

From 15 December 1999 until 31 December 2004, the Mission was also mandated to observe and report on movement across parts of the border between Georgia and the Russian Federation. While the area of operation of the Border Monitoring Mission (BMO) first only covered the border between Georgia and the Chechen Republic of the Russian Federation, it was expanded in subsequent years also to the Ingush and Dagestan segments of the Georgian-Russian border. The BMO then operated from its Head Office in Tbilisi, a Forward Supply Point in Telavi, eight Patrol Bases in Sno, Shatili, Girevi, Omalo, Napareuli, Kvareli, Akhalsopeli and Kabali, as well as one Permanent Patrol in Assa.

From 18 April 2005 until 30 June 2006, the Mission carried out a Training Assistance Programme providing training for the Georgian Border Guards at four OSCE training centres in Lilo, Kazbegi, Lagodekhi and Omalo.

Within the framework of the Capacity Building Programme, from 1 July 2006, the Mission carried out training for the Georgian Border Police. The Capacity Building Programme was successfully completed on 30 June 2007.

During the August 2008 conflict in Georgia, the Tskhinvali Field Office of the OSCE Mission to Georgia had to be evacuated. Subsequently, the Military Monitoring Officers conducted their monitoring activities from a forward monitoring base located in Karaleti.

#### 4. Duration

The original Modalities provided for an initial operating period of three months. Subsequent prolongations of the Modalities were decided at:

- 19th CSO Meeting, 4 February 1993: until 23 August 1993;
- 22nd CSO Meeting, 30 June 1993: until 23 February 1994;
- 10th Permanent Committee Meeting, 24 February 1994: until 4 March 1994;
- 25th CSO Meeting, 3 March 1994: until 30 June 1994.

The new Modalities, decided at the 14th Permanent Committee Meeting on 29 March 1994, were valid until 30 September 1994. Further prolongations were agreed at:

- 34th Permanent Committee Meeting, 22 September 1994: until 31 March 1995;
- 9th Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/18, 23 February 1995: until 30 September 1995;
- 35th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/70, 14 September 1995: until 30 June 1996;
- 70th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/122, 23 May 1996: until 31 March 1997;
- 104th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/156, 6 March 1997: until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/199, 27 November 1997: until 30 June 1998;
- 173rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/234, 17 June 1998: until 31 December 1998;
- 198th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/267, 13 November 1998: until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/299, 17 June 1999: until 31 December 1999;
- 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/320, 2 December 1999: until 30 June 2000;
- 286th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/355, 8 June 2000: until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/393, 7 December 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/456 of 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/522 of 19 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/575 of 11 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650 of 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005.

The modalities established for the Border Monitoring Operation were decided at:

- 262nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/334, 15 December 1999: until 30 April 2000.

Subsequent prolongations of these modalities and geographical expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation were decided at:

- 279th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/346Corr1, 13 April 2000: until 15 November 2000;
- 300th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/372, 21 September 2000: until 15 April 2001;
- 329th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/406, 29 March 2001: until 15 November 2001;
- 365th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/442/Corr.1, 2 November 2001: until 31 December 2001;
- 373rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/450, 13 December 2001: until 31 December 2002,

and expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Ingush Republic of the Russian Federation;

- 427th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/523, 19 December 2002: until 30 June 2003,  
and expansion of the Border Monitoring Operation to the border between Georgia and the Dagestan Republic of the Russian Federation;
- 456th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/546, 17 June 2003: until 31 December 2003;
- 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/586, 18 December 2003: until 30 June 2004;
- 512th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/614/Corr.1, 29 June 2004: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/650, 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/700, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/766, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/831, 21 December 2007: until 31 December 2008.

The modalities established for the Training Assistance Programme for Georgian Border Guards were decided at:

- 550th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/668, 14 April 2005: until 31 December 2005;
- 586th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/713, 22 December 2005: until 30 June 2006.

The modalities established for the Capacity Building Programme for the Georgian Border Police were decided at:

- 616th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/731, 29 June 2006: until 30 June 2007.

The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 883 on 12 February 2009, extending the mandate of the Military Monitoring Officers deployed in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia until 30 June 2009.

## **5. Composition**

Originally, the authorized strength of the Mission was eight members (including the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office). Subsequent increases of the number of international staff were authorized by the 19th Meeting of the CSO (4 February 1993), the 25th Meeting of the CSO (3 March 1994), the 14th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (29 March 1994), the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (27 April 1995), the 387th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (12 April 2002) and the 522nd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council (6 August 2004).

The decision of the Permanent Council in December 1999 to establish the Border Monitoring Operation and its subsequent decisions to enhance the operational efficiency and the area of operation of the BMO led to a phased increase of the number of international personnel to 148 persons at the peak of the operation, all of whom left following the closure of the BMO.

The Mission had 30 international staff working under the Training Assistance Programme during 2005/2006.

After the establishment of the Capacity Building Programme in June 2006 and until its closure in June 2007 the Mission had up to 64 international staff, 26 of whom were working under the CBP.

In 2008, the Mission had a total of 183 staff members, of which 46 were international staff, and 137 were nationals.

Prior to the August 2008 conflict in Georgia, the number of Military Monitoring Officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia amounted to eight, of whom five were permanently deployed in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict. Following the August 2008 conflict, 20 additional Military Monitoring Officers were deployed. The 28 Military Monitoring Officers operated in the areas adjacent to South Ossetia. On 12 February 2009, it was decided to extend the mandate of the additional 20 Military Monitoring Officers until 30 June 2009.

During its administrative closure, which lasted until 30 June 2009, a reduced number of staff members of the OSCE Mission to Georgia provided administrative and logistic support, as well as information and political guidance, to the Military Monitoring Officers.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Terhi Hakala of Finland.

## **The OSCE Mission to Estonia**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

18th CSO Meeting, 13 December 1992, Journal No. 3, Annex 2

Terms of Reference:

19th CSO Meeting, 3 February 1993, Journal No. 2, Annex 1

### **2. Tasks**

According to the CSO Decision from 13 December 1992, the objective of the Mission was to *further promote integration and better understanding between the communities in Estonia.*

The mandate contained in the Terms of Reference consisted of the following elements:

- *establish and maintain contacts with competent authorities on both the national and the local level, in particular with those responsible for citizenship, migration, language questions, social services and employment;*
- *establish and maintain contacts with relevant non-governmental institutions and organizations, including political parties, trade unions and mass media organizations;*
- *collect information and serve as a clearing-house for information, technical assistance and advice on matters relating to the status of the communities in Estonia and the rights and duties of their members;*
- *contribute to the efforts of Estonian national and local authorities to re-create a civic society, inter alia through the promotion of local mechanisms to facilitate dialogue and understanding;*
- *keeping in mind the temporary nature of the Mission, consider ways and means of transferring its responsibilities to institutions or organizations representing the local population.*

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission started its work in Tallinn on 15 February 1993. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Estonia was signed the same day.

In addition to the office in Tallinn, the Mission had established offices in Jõhvi and in Narva.

### **4. Duration**

According to the MoU, the Mission was established for a period of six months from the date of signature; extension of this period may be decided by participating States. Subsequent prolongations of the Mandate were decided at:

- 18th CSO Vienna Group Meeting, 24 June 1993: until 3 February 1994;
- 5th Permanent Committee Meeting, 20 January 1994: until 30 June 1994;
- 25th Permanent Committee Meeting, 23 June 1994: until 31 December 1994;
- 1st Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/1, 15 December 1994: until 30 June 1995;
- 25th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/48, 13 June 1995: until 31 December 1995;
- 48th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/90, 30 November 1995: until 30 June 1996
- 68th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/119, 9 May 1996: until 31 December 1996;
- 92nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/142, 14 November 1996: until 30 June 1997;
- 119th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/172, 10 June 1997: until 31 December 1997;
- 141st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/197, 27 November 1997: until 30 June 1998;
- 172nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/230, 11 June 1998: until 31 December 1998;
- 200th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/273, 26 November 1998: until 30 June 1999;
- 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/297, 17 June 1999: until 31 December 1999;
- 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/328, 9 December 1999: until 30 June 2000;
- 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/358, 15 June 2000: until 31 December 2000;
- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/390, 7 December 2000: until 30 June 2001;
- 345th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/421, 28 June 2001: until 31 December 2001.

The mandate of the Mission to Estonia expired on 31 December 2001.

## **5. Composition**

According to the Terms of Reference the authorized strength of the Mission was six members.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Doris Hertrampf of Germany.



# The OSCE Mission to Latvia

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

23rd CSO Meeting, 23 September 1993, Journal No. 3, Annex 3

Terms of Reference:

31st Meeting of the CSO Vienna Group, 7 October 1993, Annex 1

## 2. Tasks

The mandate of the Mission, spelled out in the CSO Decision of September 1993 and reiterated in the Terms of Reference, consisted of the following elements:

- *address citizenship issues and other related matters and be at the disposal of the Latvian Government and authorities for advice on such issues;*
- *provide information and advice to institutions, organizations and individuals with an interest in a dialogue on these issues;*
- *gather information and report on developments relevant to the full realization of CSCE principles, norms and commitments.*

## 3. Deployment

The Head of Mission and two Mission members started work in Riga on 19 November 1993. The MoU with the Government of Latvia was signed on 13 December 1993. The Mission was based in Riga.

## 4. Duration

According to the Terms of Reference the Mission operated for a period of six months, subject to revision by the CSO or the CSO Vienna Group. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| - 18th Permanent Committee Meeting, 5 May 1994:           | until 31 December 1994; |
| - 1st Permanent Council (PC), PC.DEC/2, 15 December 1994: | until 30 June 1995;     |
| - 23rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/46, 1 June 1995:                | until 31 December 1995; |
| - 47th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/88, 23 November 1995:           | until 30 June 1996;     |
| - 76th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/132, 27 June 1996:              | until 31 December 1996; |
| - 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/147, 12 December 1996:          | until 30 June 1997;     |
| - 121st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/177, 26 June 1997:             | until 31 December 1997; |
| - 142nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/201, 4 December 1997:          | until 30 June 1998;     |
| - 172nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/229, 11 June 1998:             | until 31 December 1998; |
| - 200th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/274, 26 November 1998:         | until 30 June 1999;     |
| - 235th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/298, 17 June 1999:             | until 31 December 1999; |
| - 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/321, 2 December 1999:          | until 30 June 2000;     |
| - 287th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/357, 15 June 2000:             | until 31 December 2000; |

- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/391, 7 December 2000: until 30 June 2001;
- 342th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/416, 21 June 2001: until 31 December 2001.

The mandate of the Mission to Latvia expired on 31 December 2001.

## **5. Composition**

The initial size authorized in the Terms of Reference was four members, with an option to increase the number of Mission members to a total of six. At the 3rd Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 21 December 1993, the number of Mission members was increased by two. At the 29th Meeting of the Permanent Committee on 21 July 1994, the authorized size of the Mission was increased by one additional member to a total of seven.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Peter Semneby of Sweden.

# The OSCE Mission to Ukraine

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

27th CSO Meeting, 15 June 1994, Journal No. 3, Decision (c)

Terms of Reference:

Permanent Committee, 25 August 1994, Journal No. 31, annex

## 2. Tasks

According to the CSO Decision of 15 June 1994 on the sending of CSCE experts on constitutional and economic matters to Ukraine, the Mission was established *with the task, inter alia, of supporting the work of the aforementioned experts and reporting on the situation in the Crimea*<sup>7</sup>.

According to the Permanent Committee Decision of 25 August 1994, the initial tasks of the Mission included:

- *establishing contacts with all authorities concerned, relevant institutions, representatives of various communities and non-governmental organisations, with the aim of collecting information as well as helping to prevent tensions and improve mutual understanding;*
- *providing objective reporting, on a regular basis, on all aspects of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine), or factors influencing it, and efforts towards the solution of its problems;*
- *analysing the current situation in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine) and submitting suggestions to the appropriate authorities for the solution of existing problems;*
- *providing support to the experts on constitutional and economic matters, sent to Ukraine by the Committee of Senior Officials to facilitate the dialogue between the central Government and the Crimean authorities concerning the autonomous status of the Republic of Crimea within Ukraine (cf. 27-CSO/Journal No. 3, Decision (c)); in particular, the Mission will assist the experts during their presence in Ukraine and ensure the necessary follow-up during their absence from Ukraine, including participation in interim meetings, reporting to them on new developments and collecting relevant documents;*
- *co-operating with the CSCE High Commissioner on national Minorities;*
- *preparing reports on the situation of human rights and rights of persons belonging to national minorities in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine);*
- *on the basis of any recommendations by the CSCE experts, formulating proposals to contribute to the development of economic programmes including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine);*
- *monitoring and promoting free media principles.*

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<sup>7</sup> The three experts made their first visit to Ukraine from 9 – 14 August 1994; other visits followed.

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission became operational on 24 November 1994. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by the Ukrainian Government and the Mission to Ukraine on 24 January 1995.

The Mission had its headquarters in Kyiv and maintained a branch office in Simferopol.

### **4. Duration**

The Mission's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1994. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- |  |                         |
|--|-------------------------|
| - 42nd Permanent Committee Meeting, 21 November 1994:      | until 30 June 1995;     |
| - 27th Permanent Council Meeting, PC.DEC/55, 29 June 1995: | until 31 December 1995; |
| - 48th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/91, 30 November 1995:            | until 30 June 1996;     |
| - 76th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/131, 27 June 1996:               | until 31 December 1996; |
| - 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/148, 12 December 1996:           | until 30 June 1997;     |
| - 118th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/169, 5 June 1997:               | until 31 December 1997; |
| - 143rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/204, 11 December 1997:          | until 30 June 1998;     |
| - 174th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/238, 25 June 1998:              | until 31 December 1998; |
| - 202nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/278, 17 December 1998:          | until 30 April 1999.    |

### **5. Composition**

In accordance with the recommendation of the Chairperson's Statement of 11 December 1997, the number of international Mission staff was reduced from six to four.

The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Charles Magee of the United States.

# **The OSCE Representative to the Estonian Expert Commission on Military Pensioners**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

According to Article 2, Paragraph 2 of the Estonian/Russian Bilateral Agreement on Matters Related to Social Guarantees for Military Pensioners of the Russian Federation on the Territory of the Republic of Estonia, signed on 26 July 1994, *a representative of the CSCE shall be invited to participate in the work of the Government commission which will make recommendations on the issuance of residence permits.*

At the 28th CSO Meeting on 16 September 1994, at the request of the Government of Estonia, the Chairperson-in-Office was asked to appoint a Representative of the OSCE.

## **2. Tasks**

The main task of the OSCE Representative was to participate in the work of the Estonian Government commission. The Representative was also tasked with keeping the Chairperson-in-Office informed of the work of the commission.

## **3. Deployment**

The OSCE Representative was appointed on 4 November 1994 by the Chairperson-in-Office and took up his position on 16 November 1994. He operated from an office in Tallinn.

The Commission, having completed its task after the review of some 26,400 cases since its establishment, was deactivated as of 1 September 2006, allowing termination of the mandate.

## **4. Duration**

The duration of the Representative's work corresponds to the duration of the work of the Estonian Government Commission.

## **5. Composition**

The last OSCE Representative was Mr. Uwe Mahrenholtz of Germany.

## **The OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

The OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia (CALO) was established by the Permanent Council, 16 March 1995, Journal No. 12, Point 5 (PC.DEC/28).

### **2. Tasks**

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 28 of 16 March 1995,

*the tasks of the Office, which will serve as an outpost of the OSCE Secretariat, will be to facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office as well as with other OSCE institutions and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia; establish and maintain contacts with local universities, research institutions and NGOs; promote OSCE principles and commitments as well as co-operation between countries of the region within the OSCE framework; assist in arranging OSCE regional events, inter alia, regional seminars and visits to the area by OSCE delegations; perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions.*

The original focus of CALO was to link the five recently admitted Central Asian countries of Turkmenistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan and Tajikistan more closely to the OSCE.

CALO helped organize OSCE seminars and round tables on regional security and confidence building, drug trafficking and crime prevention, regional stability, economic and environmental issues, and others. It also helped organize high-level visits to the region, and assisted in initiating a genuine dialogue between the OSCE and the Central Asian countries' leadership and large segments of the population, thus contributing to better integration of those recently admitted states with the OSCE community and system of values.

Implementation of programmes and projects in Uzbekistan in all three OSCE dimensions, including security/political, economic/environmental and democratization/human rights, was at the core of CALO activities. In close co-ordination with OSCE participating States and co-operation with other OSCE structures, CALO implemented concrete programmes and conducted training sessions aimed at promotion of the rule of law and democratic institution building, and increasing public awareness with regard to economic/environmental matters. CALO also elaborated concrete projects in the context of the security dimension.

### **3. Deployment**

In its Decision No. 28 of 16 March 1995, the Permanent Council recalled its Decision taken by the Committee of Senior Officials at its 27th Meeting on the Report by the Secretary General on his visit to the recently admitted participating States of Central Asia (see 27-CSO/Journal No. 3, Decision (g)), proposing, *inter alia*, to establish an OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia; welcomed the readiness of the Government of Uzbekistan to host such an Office; expressed satisfaction at the readiness of UNDP to offer premises for such an Office at the United Nations Integrated Office in Tashkent; decided that CALO would be established for a period of one

year starting April 1995, and would be co-located with the United Nations Integrated Office in Tashkent.

CALO started working in Tashkent in June 1995. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan on the Establishment of the OSCE Central Asian Liaison Office in Tashkent was signed on in Tashkent on 12 July 1995.

#### **4. Duration**

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 28 of 16 March 1995, CALO would be established for a period of one year starting in April 1995 and on the basis of the contacts and experience of the Office, the Secretary General was requested, in co-operation with the ODIHR, to submit proposals for a medium-term (five-year) programme of co-ordinated support for the States of Central Asia, indicating the steps to be taken in 1996.

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 397 of 14 December 2000, the formal basis for the operation of the Centre in Tashkent would, *mutatis mutandis*, be the MoU of 12 July 1995 between the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan, and the PC Decisions referred to above. The premises and assets of CALO were carried over to the OSCE Centre in Tashkent.

#### **5. Composition**

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 28 of 16 March 1995, the Head of Office would report to the Chairperson-in-Office through the Secretary General and two support staff would be locally recruited.

## **The OSCE Representative to the Joint Committee on the Skrunda Radar Station**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

On 30 April 1994, Latvia and Russia signed an agreement *on the Legal Status of the Skrunda Radar Station During its temporary Operation and Dismantling*.

Article 14 of the above Agreement provides for the establishment of a Joint Committee, *consisting of an equal number of representatives of both Parties and a representative or representatives from an international organization of which both Parties are members*, to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation. The Joint Committee shall discuss and, on the basis of consensus, decide upon any question in connection with the implementation of the Agreement.

In addition, Article 15 of the same Agreement calls for the holding of periodic and challenge inspections by the OSCE (then CSCE) in order to monitor the implementation.

At the 27th CSO Meeting on 15 June 1994, participating States welcomed requests made by Latvia and Russia for OSCE (then CSCE) assistance in the implementation of the above Agreement and asked the Permanent Committee to work out the necessary modalities.

On 30 June 1994, the Permanent Committee requested the Chairperson-in-Office to appoint an OSCE (then CSCE) Representative and an Alternate Representative to the Joint Committee established by Article 14 of the above Agreement.

At its 9th Meeting on 23 February 1995, the Permanent Council decided on the Terms of Reference for an OSCE inspection regime (PC.DEC/16). The decision provides for the establishment of a list of no more than 30 persons from which the members of the inspection teams are chosen by the Chairperson-in-Office.

Upon conclusion of the temporary functioning of the Skrunda Radar Station, the Permanent Council, at its 176th Plenary Meeting on 9 July 1998, decided on the Modification of the Rules and Modalities for the Implementation of Inspections, setting out the tasks of inspections in the dismantling period (PC.DEC/242).

### **2. Tasks**

The tasks of the Representative were as follows:

- *to monitor and co-ordinate the implementation of the Agreement;*
- *to initiate and participate in discussions on questions in connection with the implementation of the Agreement and to participate in decisions taken by the Joint Committee on the basis of consensus;*
- *to participate in establishing the procedural and organizational modalities for the functioning of the Joint Committee;*
- *to report regularly to the Permanent Committee through the Chairman-in-Office.*



### **3. Deployment**

On 6 April 1995, the Chairperson-in-Office announced the appointment of an OSCE Representative.

On 29 May 1995, a Joint Committee was set up at the Skrunda Radar Station and the first regular meeting took place on 4 July 1995.

### **4. Duration**

The duration of the Representative's work corresponds to the duration of the work of the Joint Committee. The conclusion of the temporary operation of the Skrunda Radar Station was confirmed by an OSCE Inspection Team on 3 September 1998. The dismantling of the Skrunda Radar Station was confirmed by an OSCE Inspection Team on 19 October 1999. In total, 12 periodic inspections were conducted. The final meeting of the Joint Committee took place on 22 October 1999 at which it was decided to disband the Committee by 31 October 1999.

### **5. Composition**

The OSCE Representatives were: Mr. Jørgen Andersen of Denmark (from April 1995 to July 1998) and Col. Jürgen W. Hübschen of Germany (from 1 August 1998).

# **The OSCE Assistance Group to Chechnya**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

16th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 11 April 1995, PC.DEC/35

## **2. Tasks**

As laid down in the Decision of the Permanent Council of 11 April 1995, the Assistance Group (AG) performed the following tasks, in conjunction with Russian federal and local authorities, and in full conformity with the legislation of the Russian Federation:

- *promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the establishment of facts concerning their violation; help foster the development of democratic institutions and processes, including the restoration of the local organs of authority; assist in the preparation of possible new constitutional agreements and in the holding and monitoring of elections;*
- *facilitate the delivery to the region by international and non-governmental organizations of humanitarian aid for victims of the crisis, wherever they may be located;*
- *provide assistance to the authorities of the Russian Federation and to international organizations in ensuring the speediest possible return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes in the crisis region;*
- *promote the peaceful resolution of the crisis and the stabilization of the situation in the Chechen Republic in conformity with the principle of the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation and in accordance with OSCE principles and pursue dialogue and negotiations, as appropriate, through participation in 'round tables', with a view to establishing a cease-fire and eliminating sources of tension;*
- *support the creation of mechanisms guaranteeing the rule of law, public safety and law and order.*

## **3. Deployment**

The OSCE AG to Chechnya began working in Grozny on 26 April 1995 and operated from there until 16 December 1998, when the AG's international staff was evacuated to Moscow due to the deteriorating security situation. In subsequent months, the AG conducted several working visits to Grozny. Renewed armed hostilities required the remaining AG local staff to be evacuated to Ingushetia in September 1999. In December 2000 local staff moved to the new AG office in Znamenskoye in the north of Chechnya.

Since the beginning of 2001 the immediate priority of the AG's activities was to ensure the return of its international staff to Chechnya. The negotiation process that began in 2000 to solve technical problems impeding the AG's return, led to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Security between the AG and the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation. On 15 June 2001, after almost two and a half years of evacuation, the AG's international staff returned to Chechnya.

#### **4. Duration**

Initially, no limitations as to the duration of the Group's work were set. Subsequently, through a Permanent Council Decision No. 454/Corr.1 of 21 December 2001, the mandate of the Group was extended for one year until 31 December 2002.

The mandate was not further extended and the administrative closure of the Assistance Group was completed on 21 March 2003.

#### **5. Composition**

The authorized strength of the Assistance Group was six international staff members. The Chairperson-in-Office, in consultation with the Russian Federation, was authorized to decide on the group's membership.

The last Head of the Assistance Group was Ambassador Jorma Inki of Finland.

# **Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

## **1. Basic Decisions**

During the Ministerial Council held in Budapest in 1995, the OSCE took the decision to designate Personal Representative(s) of the Chairperson-in-Office to assist the Parties in the former Yugoslavia in their negotiations and implementation of the Agreements under Annex 1 B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Peace Accords). Following the Declaration of the Ministerial Council in Basel (MC.DOC/4/14), the ownership of the agreement was transferred to the State Parties.

## **2. Tasks**

In accordance with the decisions on OSCE Action for Peace, Democracy and Stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina (MC(5).DEC/1), the Personal Representative for Article IV was tasked to assist the Parties in the implementation of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control.

The Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV has the mandate to support the effective implementation of the Agreement, brokering political consensus, ensuring that the process flows, and surmounting obstacles to the Agreement's implementation.

The Personal Representative will maintain a seat on the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission (SRCC), the forum governing the Agreement, chaired on rotation by the Parties to the Agreement. He/she promoted, in consultation with the Parties, the organization of the biennial conference to review the implementation of the Agreement.

He/she will continue being responsible for co-coordinating the inspections conducted in the Sub-Region under the auspices of Article IV and will furthermore provide active assistance to the Parties.

The Personal Representative will continue recommending the training of Article IV Inspectors, Escort and Assistants in all the appropriate centres, such as NATO School and the RACVIAC. He/she will take part or will ensure the participation of experts as lectures to these training activities.

He/she will assist the Parties Verification Agencies in maintaining their Information Exchange Documents and Notifications at the current high level of quality, providing contributing assessments and analysis to the Parties.

The Personal Representative will promote the adoption of the OSCE Communications Network, using the English language, thus speeding up the exchange of information, documents and notifications pertaining to the Agreement itself.

He/she will co-ordinate; in consultation with the Parties, the periodical update of the Agreement, necessary to collect in an appropriate format all the substantial amendments and SRCC decisions adopted by the Parties.

The Personal Representative will hold meetings with the authorities of the Parties' governments and the members of the contact group in order to keep them informed, to achieve their perspectives and continue fostering the sub-regional consensus on the implementation of the Agreement.

In general, the Personal Representative will monitor the development of the most important issues in the sub-region, with particular focus on those which are linked with Regional Stability.

### **3. Deployment**

The Article IV Office was located in Vienna. After the closure of the Office, the Inspection Teams of the Parties together with Assistants of OSCE States continue to conduct inspections on the territories of the four acting Parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia.

### **4. Duration**

Following the transfer of the Ownership Process to the Parties from 1 January 2015, the last Personal Representative, Major General Michele Torres of Italy, discontinued his function after the first six months of 2015. Subsequently, the CPC continues to support the State Parties in an administrative capacity.

# The OSCE Mission to Croatia/OSCE Office in Zagreb

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment:

Permanent Council, 18 April 1996, PC.DEC/112<sup>8</sup>

Terms of reference:

Permanent Council, 26 June 1997, PC.DEC/176

Permanent Council, 17 July 1997, PC.DEC/181

Permanent Council, 25 June 1998, PC.DEC/239

Permanent Council, 21 September 2000, PC.DEC/373

Permanent Council, 14 December 2000, PC.DEC/396

United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1145 (19 December 1997)

Transformation and Closure:

The 694th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 21 December 2007 (PC.DEC/836), decided to close the OSCE Mission to Croatia and to establish an Office in Zagreb.

The 894th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 15 December 2011 (PC.DEC/1026), decided to close the OSCE Office in Zagreb.

## 2. Tasks

In its Decision of 18 April 1996, the Permanent Council noted the reports of the Fact-Finding Mission of the OSCE to Croatia (6 to 10 October 1995), and of the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office on his visit to Croatia (20 to 23 February 1996), reaffirmed the OSCE's principles and commitments and its full support for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Croatia, and welcomed the invitation of the Government of Croatia for an OSCE Mission.

The Permanent Council decided that:

- *The Mission will provide assistance and expertise to the Croatian authorities at all levels, as well as to interested individuals, groups and organizations, in the field of the protection of human rights and of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. In this context and in order to promote reconciliation, the rule of law and conformity with the highest internationally recognized standards, the Mission will also assist and advise on the full implementation of legislation and monitor the proper functioning and development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms.*
- *In carrying out its tasks, the Mission will co-operate with and use the expertise of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities and of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights. It will also co-operate with other international organizations and institutions, notably the Council of Europe, the ECMM, the Special Envoy for Regional Issues, UNHCR, the ICRC and relevant NGOs.*

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<sup>8</sup> Subject to a silence procedure which expired on 19 April 1996 at 4 p.m.

- *The Mission will offer close co-operation to UNTAES<sup>9</sup>, in particular as regards confidence-building and reconciliation, as well as the development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms at the municipal and district/county level.*

In the Decision No. 176 of 26 June 1997, the Permanent Council made the following amendments to its Decision No. 112 of 18 April 1996:

The Permanent Council decided to:

- *Pursue OSCE tasks in the Republic of Croatia on the basis of PC Decision No. 112 of 18 April 1996, as amended by this Decision;*
- *Reaffirm the availability of all OSCE institutions to assist in the development of democratic institutions, processes and mechanisms;*
- *Authorize the Mission:*
- *To assist with and to monitor implementation of Croatian legislation and agreements and commitments entered into by the Croatian Government on:*
  - *Two-way return of all refugees and displaced persons and on protection of their rights, and*
  - *The protection of persons belonging to national minorities;*
- *To make specific recommendations to the Croatian authorities and refer, as appropriate, urgent issues to the Permanent Council.*

The Permanent Council in the Decision No. 239 of 25 June 1998 recalled its Decisions Nos. 112 and 176 and the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1145 of 19 December 1997 and also welcomed the understanding reached between the Chairperson-in-Office and Croatian authorities and the readiness and commitment of the Government of Croatia to ensure the appropriate implementation of the Decision, as expressed in the letter from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Croatia, Dr. Mate Granic, to the Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/32/98 Restr.). Further, the Permanent Council expressed:

*the readiness of the OSCE to deploy civilian police monitors to assume the responsibilities of the United Nations Police Support Group (UNPSG) personnel deployed in the Croatian Danubian region, which will be based on the following understandings:*

- *the overall number of OSCE police monitors deployed in the Danubian region will not exceed 120;*
- *Actual deployment of the OSCE personnel will take place with a view to ensuring a proper transition from United Nations to OSCE police monitoring in anticipation of the end of the UNPSG mandate on 15 October 1998;*
- *No financial implications for the 1998 budget of the OSCE Mission to Croatia are envisaged.*

The Permanent Council in its Decision No. 373 of 21 September 2001, referred to the Chairperson's perception expressed at the Permanent Council Meeting on 13 July 2000 (PC.DEL/386/00) and the proposal by the OSCE Mission to Croatia of 11 August 2000 that the Police Monitoring Group in the Danube region of Croatia should be downsized and phased

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<sup>9</sup> United Nations Transitional Authority in Eastern Slavonia, Baranja and Western Sirmium

out (CIO.GAL/74/00), acknowledged the fact that the OSCE Police Monitoring Group had contributed to the peaceful integration of the Danube Region and took note of the fact that the security situation in the Danube region had remained stable during 2000. Further the Permanent Council:

- Decided that the Police Monitoring Group will cease operations as a distinct unit within the OSCE Mission to Croatia by 31 October 2000;
- Authorized the OSCE Mission to Croatia, on the basis of the proposal by the OSCE Mission to Croatia of 11 August 2000 (CIO.GAL.74/00), to appoint experienced international civilian police officers and integrate them administratively and operationally into the Mission, as appropriate;
- Authorized the Mission to continue playing its civilian police monitoring and advisory role in the Danube region, as well as in other parts of Croatia;
- Requested the Mission to continue to report to the Permanent Council on the security situation in the Danube region, as well as in other parts of Croatia, on a regular basis;
- Instructed the Mission to reflect these reductions in savings in the Mission's year 2000 budget.

The Permanent Council, in its Decision No. 836 of 21 December 2007, tasked the OSCE Office in Zagreb to:

- monitor the proceedings related to cases referred to Croatia pursuant to Rule 11 *bis* of the ICTY's Rules of Procedure and Evidence on behalf of the OSCE as well as on behalf of the Prosecutor of ICTY, in line with the PC Decision No. 673 dated 19 May 2005. The Office will also monitor, as part of the national proceedings followed, all other cases involving ICTY transfers including so-called "Category II" cases as well as all domestic war crimes proceedings initiated at the local level;
- report on the residual aspects of the implementation of the housing programmes in Croatia.

### **3. Deployment**

The Mission started working in Zagreb on 4 July 1996. The regional office in Knin opened on 13 August 1996. The regional office in Vukovar opened in 30 August 1996.

Pursuant to the PC Decision No. 126 of 29 June 1997, the Mission transformed the Knin and Vukovar Regional Offices into Co-ordination Centres (CC), established two more CCs in Sisak and Daruvar and a Zagreb area office co-located with the HQ.

The Mission was composed of a Headquarters in Zagreb and Field Centres in Knin, Vukovar and Sisak. In addition, the Mission had six Field Offices and six sub-offices.

The OSCE Office in Zagreb started working on 1 January 2008 with headquarters in Zagreb.



#### 4. Duration

The Mission's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1996. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| - 94th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/146, 12 December 1996:        | until 30 June 1997;     |
| - 121st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/176, 26 June 1997:           | until 31 December 1998; |
| - 199th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/271/Corr., 19 November 1998: | until 31 December 1999; |
| - 261st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/327, 9 December 1999:        | until 31 March 2000;    |
| - 276th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/345, 23 March 2000:          | until 31 December 2000; |
| - 314th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/396, 14 December 2000:       | until 31 December 2001; |
| - 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/455, 21 December 2001:       | until 31 December 2002; |
| - 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/514, 12 December 2002:       | until 31 December 2003; |
| - 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/578, 18 December 2003:       | until 31 December 2004; |
| - 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/644, 16 December 2004:       | until 31 December 2005; |
| - 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/695, 17 November 2005:       | until 31 December 2006; |
| - 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/748, 23 November 2006;       | until 31 December 2007. |

The mandate of the Mission to Croatia expired on 31 December 2007, and was replaced by the Office in Zagreb on 1 January 2008.

The mandate of the Office in Zagreb was subsequently extended at:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| - 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/978, 16 December 2010: | until 31 December 2011. |
|---|-------------------------|

On 15 December 2011, the 56 OSCE participating States agreed that the Office in Zagreb had successfully fulfilled its mandate, and the Permanent Council adopted a Decision (PC.DEC/1026) to close the OSCE field presence in Croatia after 15 years of work in the host country.

#### 5. Composition

The modalities (PC.DEC/112) foresaw that *the Mission would establish its headquarters in Zagreb and regional offices in Knin and Vukovar. It was composed of up to 8 members at headquarters, and of up to 3 members at each regional office. The appointment of the Head of Mission by the Chairman-in-Office will be subject to consultation with the authorities of the host country.*

The PC Decision No. 176 of 26 June 1997 authorized the Mission to *build up Mission personnel, starting July 1997, to a ceiling of 250 expatriates with a view to full deployment by October 1998. The current number of Mission members is 64. The personnel will be deployed by decision of the Head of Mission.*

The PC Decision No. 181 of 17 July 1997 *agrees that the Secretariat may recruit a maximum of four key administrative and support posts at the Mission Headquarters....The principle of providing international staff for OSCE Missions exclusively on a secondment basis remains valid.*

In the understanding reached between the Chairperson-in-Office and Croatian authorities a temporary and technical increase in the ceiling to a maximum of 280 international personnel could be authorized. Permanent Council Decision No. 345, of 23 March 2000, reduced the

authorized level of international personnel to 225. Permanent Council Decision No. 396, of 14 December 2000, further reduced the ceiling to 120. Permanent Council Decision No. 424 of 28 June 2001 authorized the Mission to maintain up to 100 international personnel. This number was further reduced to 90 international personnel by Permanent Council Decision No. 455 of 21 December 2001 and to 67 by Permanent Council Decision No. 514 of 12 December 2002. The total number of international staff was progressively reduced to reach 51 in July 2005 and 39 by 2006.

The Mission employed 30 internationals and 117 nationals, totalling 147 staff members.

The last Head of Mission was Ambassador Jorge Fuentes Monzonis-Vilallonga of Spain.

The last appointed Head of the Office in Zagreb was Ambassador Jose-Enrique Horcajada of Spain. In 2011, the Office in Zagreb had three international and 16 national staff members.

## **The OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment: 129th meeting of the Permanent Council, 18 September 1997, Decision No. 185 (PC.DEC/185).

### **2. Tasks**

Through Permanent Council Decision No. 185 of 18 September 1997, the Permanent Council decided to establish an OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus, which, in co-operation with Belarusian authorities and other international organizations, would perform the following tasks:

- *assist the Belarusian authorities in promoting democratic institutions and in complying with other OSCE commitments; and*
- *monitor and report on this process.*

### **3. Deployment**

The Group started work in Minsk in January 1998, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Belarus and the OSCE on the AMG having been signed on 18 December 1997.

### **4. Duration**

No limitations as to the duration of the Group's work were set at the time of its establishment. Through Permanent Council Decision No. 526 of 30 December 2002, the Permanent Council decided to close the OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in Belarus on 31 December 2002.

### **5. Composition**

The Advisory and Monitoring Group was staffed by a Head of Group and a team of four experts on all relevant aspects.

Ambassador Hans-Georg Wieck (Germany) completed his assignment as Head of Group in December 2001.

# The OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission/OSCE Task Force for Kosovo

## 1. Basic Decisions

Establishment: 193rd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 25 October 1998, (PC.DEC/263). Interpretative Statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations.

Terms of Reference:

- *ibid*
- Permanent Council Decision No. 218, 11 March 1998 (PC.DEC/218)
- Statement of the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE of 7 October 1998.
- Agreement on the OSCE Kosovo Verification Missions signed in Belgrade, on 16 October 1998, by the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (CIO.GAL/65/98/Corr.1)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 259, 15 October 1998 (PC.DEC/259/98)
- Agreement between NATO and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, 15 October 1998
- United Nations Security Council Resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998) and 1203 (1998) (CIO.GAL/68/98)
- Permanent Council Decision No. 296, 8 June 1999 (PC.DEC/296/Corr.)

## 2. Tasks

In its Decision No. 259 of 15 October 1998, the Permanent Council, acting within the framework of the United Nations Security Council Resolution No. 1199, *declared the preparedness of the OSCE to embark upon verification activities related to compliance of all parties in Kosovo with the requirements set forth by the international community with regard to the solution of the crisis in Kosovo*. The Permanent Council supported the Chairperson-in-Office's efforts to arrange with the FRY authorities for the OSCE to give its contribution to the peaceful solution of the crisis in Kosovo.

In its Decision No. 263 of 25 October 1998, the Permanent Council decided to *establish the Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) in accordance with the mandate contained in the agreement signed by the CiO (CIO.GAL/65/98)*.

The Agreement on the Kosovo Verification Mission signed by the Chairperson-in-Office of the OSCE and the Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in part II General Responsibilities, Roles and Missions, enumerated the following tasks:

- *to verify compliance by all parties in Kosovo with UN Security Council Resolution 1199, and to report instances of progress and/or non-compliance to the OSCE Permanent Council, the United Nations Security Council and other organisations. These reports will also be provided to the authorities of the FRY;*
- *to maintain close liaison with FRY, Serbian and, as appropriate, other Kosovo authorities, political parties and other organisations in Kosovo and accredited international and non-government organisations to assist in fulfilling its responsibilities;*
- *to supervise elections in Kosovo to ensure their openness and fairness in accordance with regulations and procedures to be agreed;*

- *to report and make recommendations to the OSCE Permanent Council, the UN Security Council and other organizations on areas covered by UN Security Council Resolution 1199.*

These general responsibilities are further specified in Chapter III of the Agreement under Specific Terms of Reference entrusting the Kosovo Verification Mission with the following tasks:

- *(...) verify the maintenance of the cease-fire by all elements. (...) investigate reports of cease-fire violations;*
- *(...) receive weekly information from relevant FRY/Serbian military/police headquarters in Kosovo regarding movements of forces (...). Upon request of the Verification Mission Director, Mission personnel may be invited to accompany police within Kosovo;*
- *(...) look for and report on roadblocks and other emplacements which influence lines of communications erected for purposes other than traffic or crime control;*
- *maintain liaison with FRY authorities about border control activity and movement units with border control responsibilities (...). The Verification Mission, when invited by the FRY authorities or upon its request, will visit border control units and accompany them as they perform their normal border control roles;*
- *when invited or upon request, the Verification Mission will accompany police units in Kosovo as they perform their normal policing roles;*
- *assist UNHCR, ICRC and other international organizations in facilitating the return of displaced persons to their homes (...). The Mission will verify the level of co-operation and support provided by the FRY and its entities to the humanitarian organizations and accredited NGOs (...);*
- *As the political settlement defining Kosovo's self-government is achieved and implementation begins, the Mission Director will assist, both with his own resources and with augmented OSCE implementation support, in areas such as elections supervision, assistance in the establishment of Kosovo institutions and police force development in Kosovo;*
- *The Mission Director will receive periodic updates from the relevant authorities concerning eventual allegations of abusive actions by military or police personnel and status of disciplinary or legal actions against individuals implicated in such abuses;*
- *(...) maintain liaison with FRY, Serbian and, as appropriate, Kosovo authorities and with ICRC regarding ICRC access to detained persons;*
- *(...) convene representatives of national communities and authorities to exchange information and provide guidance on implementation of the agreement establishing the Verification Mission;*
- *(...) report instances of progress and/or non-compliance or lack of full co-operation from any side to the OSCE and other organizations.*

According to Permanent Council Decision No. 296 of 8 June 1999, the OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission would cease to exist as of 9 June 1999. From the same date a transitional OSCE Task Force for Kosovo would be established, pending a decision on future tasks for the OSCE in Kosovo. The tasks of the OSCE Task Force were the following:

- *To prepare for the deployment to Kosovo of available and relevant OSCE assets as soon as this may be required;*
- *To assist in planning and preparation for new tasks which the OSCE may take on as part of a new international presence in Kosovo;*
- *To carry out preparatory visits and activities in Kosovo in order to facilitate the entry of a future OSCE Mission to Kosovo as soon as conditions allow;*
- *To co-operate, as required, with the UN and other international organizations in on-going activities relevant to possible future OSCE tasks in Kosovo, in particular registration and documentation of refugees;*
- *To continue assessing the human rights situation in Kosovo.*

### **3. Deployment**

The OSCE Kosovo Verification Mission (KVM) reached a strength of approximately 1,500 international staff by February 1999 but was unable to carry out the full scope of the tasks allocated under the FRY-OSCE Agreement. The security situation in Kosovo during this period was characterized as tense. Following a steady deterioration in the security situation in the Province, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Norwegian Foreign Minister Knut Vollebaek, withdrew the KVM on 20 March 1999. The KVM was then temporarily based in Skopje, the capital of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The bulk of its Mission members were repatriated. The Mission was temporarily organized as a Mission "Core", responsible for administration and planning for the re-entry of an OSCE Mission to Kosovo; a Task Force in Albania to assist UNHCR with the refugee crisis and to conduct human rights investigations; and a further Task Force in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia performing similar functions. The KVM was later dissolved and the Task Force for Kosovo created in its stead by PC.DEC/296 on 8 June 1999, primarily tasked with preparing for re-deployment to Kosovo and continuing to assist the UN and other international organizations. The Task Force for Kosovo was dissolved on 1 July 1999 and replaced by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo by PC.DEC/305.

### **4. Duration**

In its Decision No. 263, paragraph 3, the Permanent Council decided to establish the KVM for one year, with extensions upon the request of either the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office or the FRY government. The Delegation of the Russian Federation formulated an interpretative statement to paragraph 3 of the Decision, attached to the Decision. The KVM was dissolved and the Task Force for Kosovo created in its stead by PC.DEC/296 on 8 June 1999.

### **5. Composition**

The Agreement of 16 October 1998 foresaw in part IV the following structure for the Kosovo Verification Mission:

*A Director, together with headquarters staff to be determined by Verification Mission requirements.*

*2000 unarmed verifiers from OSCE member states will be permitted. Headquarters and support staff included in this total. The Mission may be augmented with technical experts provided by OSCE.*

*A headquarters in Pristina.*

*Field presence in locations around Kosovo to be determined by the Mission Director.*

*A small liaison office in Belgrade.*

Part V of the Agreement Field Presence established the following provisions:

*Co-ordination Centres will be established in the capital of each opstina in Kosovo with specific areas of responsibility, under the Mission Director located in Pristina.*

*Many opstina coordination centres will have one or more sub-stations in smaller towns/villages in the opstina. The number and location of sub-stations will vary from opstina to opstina, depending on the verification environment and past conflict situation.*

As described above, the composition of the KVM subsequently evolved during the spring and early summer of 1999 into those now found in the OSCE Mission in Kosovo within the UNMiK structure.

## **The OSCE Office in Yerevan**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

Permanent Council Decision No. 314, 22 July 1999 (PC.DEC/314).

### **2. Tasks**

In accordance with the decision of the OSCE Permanent Council referred to above, the Office performed the following tasks:

- *Promote the implementation of the OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Armenia within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions, including the human, political, economic and environmental aspects of security and stability;*
- *Facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and other OSCE institutions as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;*
- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation;*
- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Armenia and the OSCE.*

As the mandate was not extended for 2017, the Office did not implement the above tasks after 1 January 2017.

### **3. Deployment**

The Office initiated its activities on 16 February 2000, following the ratification by the Armenian National Assembly of the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and the Republic of Armenia.

The Office closed on 31 August 2017 in the absence of agreement to extend the mandate.

### **4. Duration**

The Office's original mandate lasted until 31 December 1999. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| - 260th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/324, 2 December 1999:  | until 31 December 2000; |
| - 313rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/388, 7 December 2000:  | until 31 December 2001; |
| - 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/461, 21 December 2001: | until 31 December 2002; |
| - 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/520, 12 December 2002: | until 31 December 2003; |
| - 487th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/573, 11 December 2003: | until 31 December 2004; |



- 535th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/641, 2 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 582nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/711, 1 December 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 642nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/767, 14 December 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/834, 21 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;
- 745th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/879, 18 December 2008; until 31 December 2009;
- 783rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/904, 24 November 2009; until 31 December 2010;
- 844th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/968, 16 December 2010; until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1013, 15 December 2011; until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1060, 29 November 2012; until 31 December 2013;
- 963rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1091, 26 July 2013; until 31 December 2014;
- 1146th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1147, 27 November 2014; until 31 December 2015;
- 1078th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/11/98, 19 November 2015; until 31 December 2016.

On 4 May 2017, the Chairmanship informed the Permanent Council that continuing mandate negotiations would no longer be fruitful, and that it had instructed the Secretary General to initiate the closure process. The Office closed on 31 August 2017.

## **5. Composition**

In 2017, until its closure, the Office had seven internationally and 41 locally recruited posts (48 in total).

The last Head of Office was Ambassador Argo Avakov of the Russian Federation.

## **The OSCE Office in Baku/OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

#### Establishment:

The OSCE Office in Baku was established by the 258th Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 16 November 1999 (PC.DEC/318).

#### Transformation:

The 963rd Plenary Meeting of the Permanent Council, 26 July 2013, (PC.DEC/1092) decided to transform the OSCE Office in Baku, upon the expiration of its existing mandate on 31 December 2013, into an OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku.

### **2. Tasks**

In accordance with PC.DEC/318 the mandate of the Office in Baku included the following elements:

- *Promote the implementation of the OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Azerbaijan within the OSCE framework, in all OSCE dimensions, including human, political, economic and environmental aspects of security and stability.*
- *Facilitate contacts, co-ordinate activities and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and other OSCE institutions as well as co-operation with international organisations and institutions.*
- *Establish and maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGO's and assist in arranging events with OSCE participation.*
- *Perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OSCE.*

The mandate of the Project Co-ordinator in Baku set out in PC.DEC/1092 included the following elements:

- *To support co-operation between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OSCE and its institutions aimed at implementing OSCE principles and commitments;*
- *To carry out planning and implementation of projects between relevant authorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OSCE and its institutions. Such projects will cover all three dimensions of the OSCE's comprehensive security concept, taking into account the needs and priorities of the Republic of Azerbaijan;*
- *To that end to maintain contacts with governmental as well as non-governmental bodies, local authorities, universities, research institutions and NGOs of the Republic of Azerbaijan;*
- *To perform other tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairperson-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed upon between the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the OSCE.*

### **3. Deployment**

The Office in Baku launched its operations on 17 July 2000. On 1 January 2014, the Office in Baku was transformed into the Project Co-ordinator in Baku (PCiB).

### **4. Duration**

The field operation's original mandate lasted until 31 December 2000. Subsequent prolongations were decided at:

- 313th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/392, 7 December 2000: until 31 December 2001;
- 375th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/452, 21 December 2001: until 31 December 2002;
- 426th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/519, 12 December 2002: until 31 December 2003;
- 489th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/574, 11 December 2003: until 31 December 2004;
- 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/652, 16 December 2004: until 31 December 2005;
- 580th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/701, 17 November 2005: until 31 December 2006;
- 639th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/752, 23 November 2006: until 31 December 2007;
- 691st PC Meeting, PC.DEC/817, 6 December 2007: until 31 December 2008;
- 745th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/878, 18 December 2008: until 31 December 2009;
- 785th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/915, 10 December 2009: until 31 December 2010;
- 845th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/982, 23 December 2010: until 31 December 2011;
- 894th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1012, 15 December 2011: until 31 December 2012;
- 933rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1055, 29 November 2012: until 31 December 2013;

Following the transformation of the OSCE Office in Baku into the "OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Baku" on 1 January 2014, subsequent prolongations of the PCiB's mandate were decided at:

- 1028th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/1146, 27 November 2014: until 31 December 2015.

The PCiB's discontinuation followed Azerbaijan's request to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the PCiB between the government of Azerbaijan and the OSCE on 4 June 2015. The Azerbaijani authorities granted the OSCE one month for the completion of technical issues arising from the termination of the MoU. The discontinuation process ended on 4 July 2015.

### **5. Composition**

The post table for the Office in Baku in 2013 included 11 internationally recruited posts, including the Head of Office, and 29 locally recruited posts. The last appointed Head of Office was Ambassador Koray Targay of Turkey.

The post table for the Project Co-ordinator in Baku in 2015 included five internationally recruited posts, including the Head of Mission, and 17 locally recruited posts. The last appointed Head of Mission was Ambassador Alexis Chahtahtinsky of France (1 March 2014 – 31 May 2015). Once it was clear that operations would be discontinued, the functions of the Head of Mission were carried out by Mr. John Crosby (United Kingdom) until the closure of the PCiB office in December 2015.

## **The OSCE Office in Minsk**

### **1. Basic Decisions**

Establishment:

429th Meeting of the Permanent Council, 30 December 2002, Decision No. 526 (PC.DEC/526).

### **2. Tasks**

The OSCE Office in Minsk was given the following tasks:

- *Assist the Belarusian Government in further promoting institution building, in further consolidating the Rule of Law and in developing relations with civil society, in accordance with OSCE principles and commitments;*
- *Assist the Belarusian Government in its efforts in developing economic and environmental activities;*
- *Monitor and report accurately on the above mentioned objectives.*

### **3. Deployment**

The first Head of the Office started work in Minsk on 10 February 2003.

### **4. Duration**

This mandate initially applied until 31 December 2003. The prolongation and any changes of the mandate were subject to a new decision of the OSCE Permanent Council, on an annual basis.

The mandate of the Office was prolonged at:

- |   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| - 488th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/589, 18 December 2003: | until 31 December 2004; |
| - 538th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/655, 16 December 2004: | until 31 December 2005; |
| - 584th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/710, 15 December 2005: | until 31 December 2006; |
| - 644th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/775, 28 December 2006: | until 31 December 2007; |
| - 693rd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/837, 27 December 2007: | until 31 December 2008; |
| - 742nd PC Meeting, PC.DEC/874, 27 November 2008: | until 31 December 2009; |
| - 788th PC Meeting, PC.DEC/925, 31 December 2009: | until 31 December 2010. |

The mandate of the Office in Minsk expired on 31 December 2010.

## **5. Composition**

The OSCE Office in Minsk was staffed by a Head of Office assisted by a team of experts. The total number of staff in its final year of operation was 13, which comprised five internationals and eight nationals.

The Head of Office (from 15 January 2010 until 31 December 2010) was Ambassador Benedikt Haller of Germany.

## **ANNEX III - List of all Names of Field Operations**

*The following is an alphabetical list of names and dates of OSCE field operations and field-related activities not already listed separately in this document and which field operations and field-related activities to refer to for further information.*

### **South-Eastern Europe**

OSCE Mission in Sarajevo (1994-1995)

– see OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro (2003-2006)

– see OSCE Mission to Montenegro

– see OSCE Mission to Serbia

OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (2001-2003)

– see OSCE Missions of Long Duration in Kosovo, Sandjak and Vojvodina (Annex)

– see OSCE Mission to Montenegro

– see OSCE Mission to Serbia

OSCE Office in Podgorica (2001-2006)

– see OSCE Mission to Montenegro

– see OSCE Mission to Serbia

OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje (1992-2010)

– see OSCE Mission to Skopje

### **Central Asia**

OSCE Centre in Almaty (1998-2007)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan

OSCE Centre in Astana (2007-2015)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan

OSCE Centre in Bishkek (1998-2017)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek

OSCE Centre in Dushanbe (2002-2008)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe

OSCE Centre in Tashkent (2000-2006)

– see OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Uzbekistan

OSCE Mission to Tajikistan (1993-2002)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe

OSCE Office in Tajikistan (2008-2017)

– see OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe