
Belgian Chairmanship**598th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 16 March 2006

Opened: 10.10 a.m.
Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. B. de Crombrughe

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Moldova to the OSCE, Mr. Victor Postolachi.

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

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE HIGH REPRESENTATIVE-EUROPEAN UNION SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, DR. CHRISTIAN SCHWARZ-SCHILLING

High Representative-European Union Special Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina (PC.DEL/219/06 OSCE+), Senior Deputy High Representative, Austria-European Union (with the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania; the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Serbia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/228/06), Armenia, Russian Federation, United States of America (PC.DEL/234/06), Canada (PC.DEL/237/06), Japan (Partner for Co-operation) (PC.DEL/231/06 OSCE+), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chairperson

Agenda item 2: OSCE CENTRE IN TASHKENT

Head of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent (PC.FR/4/06 OSCE+), Austria-European Union (with the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania; the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and

potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/230/06), United States of America (PC.DEL/242/06 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/233/06 OSCE+), Canada (also on behalf of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/238/06), Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/240/06 OSCE+), Chairperson

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Human rights situation in Belarus and preparations for the presidential elections, to be held on 19 March 2006:* Austria-European Union (with the acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania; the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/229/06), Ukraine (PC.DEL/239/06), United States of America (PC.DEL/235/06), Georgia, Representative of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Belarus
- (b) *Recent disturbances in France:* Belarus, France

Agenda item 4: DECLARATION ON CO-OPERATION WITH THE UNITED NATIONS

Chairperson

Decision/Document adopted: The Permanent Council adopted the declaration on co-operation with the United Nations (PC.DOC/1/06), the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the written report on the activities of the Chairman-in-Office (CIO.GAL/39/06):* Chairperson
- (b) *Visit of the Special Envoy of the Chairmanship to the Russian Federation and Georgia from 8 to 12 March 2006:* Chairperson

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General:
Representative of the Office of the Secretary General

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Report on the visit of Heads of OSCE delegations to Serbia and Montenegro from 11 to 14 March 2006: Serbia and Montenegro (PC.DEL/241/06 OSCE+), Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 23 March 2006, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal