



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

Office of the Secretary General
Section for External Co-operation

**The 2001 Mediterranean Seminar on the Implementation of OSCE
Economic and Environmental Dimension Commitments:
The OSCE Experience and its Relevance for the Mediterranean Region**

(Dubrovnik, 30 and 31 October 2001)



Consolidated Summary

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I General Information

1 Venue

The Seminar was held from 30 to 31 October 2001 at the Hotel Excelsior, Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia.

2 Participation^{*)}

- 2.1 Twenty-two OSCE participating States took part in the Seminar.
- 2.2 All six Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) were represented. Thailand, a Partner for Co-operation, was also represented. Brunei, currently holding the Chair of the ASEAN Regional Forum, attended as a guest of the host country.
- 2.3 The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was represented.
- 2.4 The following international organizations and institutions were represented: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Council of Europe and Organization of the Islamic Conference.
- 2.5 Representatives of non-governmental organizations were able to attend and contribute to the Seminar in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices.

3 Timetable and Organizational Modalities

- 3.1 The Seminar began at 9 a.m. (opening ceremony) on 30 October 2001 and ended at 6.30 p.m. on 31 October 2001.
- 3.2 The Seminar was conducted in four sessions.
- 3.3 The opening session was chaired by Mr. Daniel Daianu, Representative of the Chairman-in-Office. The closing session was chaired by H.E. Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Head of the Permanent Mission of Portugal.
- 3.4 Each session had a moderator and a rapporteur.
- 3.5 The working language was English. At the request of several participating States, interpretation was provided from and into French.
- 3.6 Arrangements were made for press coverage.
- 3.7 Other rules of procedure and working methods of the OSCE were applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Seminar.
- 3.8 The seating arrangement is shown in the Annex.

^{*)} See chapter IV List of Participants

4 Agenda

Tuesday, 30 October 2001

- 9 a.m. Opening ceremony
- Chair: Mr. Daniel Daianu, Representative of the Chairman-in-Office, Romania
- Opening address by H.E. Mr. Roland Žuvanić, Deputy Minister of Environment, Croatia
- Statement by Mr. Daniel Daianu, Representative of the Chairman-in-Office, Romania
- On behalf of H.E. Ambassador Jàn Kubiš, Secretary General of the OSCE, statement by Ms. Hannie Pollmann-Zaal, Head, Office of the Secretary General of the OSCE
- Guest speaker: H.E. Ambassador Danielle Del Marmol-Guilbert, Belgium/EU
- 10 a.m. **Session 1: The Economic and Environmental Dimension and its implications for security – The role of civil society, the rule of law and good governance**
- Moderator: H.E. Ambassador Sameh Hassan Shoukry, Egypt
- Rapporteur: Ms. Christine Cadieux, Canada
- Keynote speakers: (10 minutes each)
- Mr. Marc Baltes, Acting Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
- The Economic and Environmental Dimension and its implications for security
 - H.E. Ambassador Noel Buttigieg Scicluna, Malta
 - The role of civil society
 - H.E. Ambassador Tajeddine Baddou, Morocco
 - Mr. Jamal Al-Shamayleh, Jordan
- 11.15 a.m. Coffee break
- 11.45 a.m.- 1 p.m. Discussion

- 3 p.m. **Session 2: The role of OSCE field activities: Case studies**
- Moderator: H.E. Ambassador Guido Lenzi, Italy
- Rapporteur: Mr. Reda Mehigueni, NGO *Mouvement Ecologique Algérien*, Algeria
- Keynote Speakers: (10 minutes each)
- Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, OSCE Secretariat: "Overview of economic dimension activities in South Eastern Europe: Added-value of OSCE"
 - Mr. Dušan Vasiljević: Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to FRY: "Environmental institution building"
 - Mr. José María Troncoso Perera, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to Croatia: "Forum organized on cross border co-operation in economic development"
- 4.15 p.m. Coffee break
- 4.30–6 p.m. Discussion

Wednesday, 31 October 2001

- 10 a.m. **Session 3: The relevance of the OSCE experience in the Economic and Environmental Dimension for the Mediterranean region in developing regional co-operation and cross-border opportunities**
- Moderator: Mr. Karel Vosskühler, Netherlands
- Rapporteur: Mr. Jamal Al-Shamayleh, Jordan
- Keynote speakers: (10 minutes each)
- Mr. Øystein Bø, Norway
 - Mr. Zdravko Tomac, Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, President of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
 - Mr. Erwan Fouéré, Head of OSCE and Council of Europe Section, European Commission
 - Mr. Reda Mehigueni, NGO "Mouvement Ecologique Algérien", Algeria
- 11.15 a.m. Coffee break
- 11.45 a.m.- 1 p.m. Discussion

3 p.m. **Session 4: Partnership Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region (stocktaking and recommendations)**

Moderator: H.E. Ambassador Tajeddine Baddou, Morocco

Rapporteur: Mr. Jean-Luc Fauré-Tournaire, France

Keynote speakers: (10 minutes each)

- Mr. Mohammed Ali Moualhi, Director-General of Studies,
 Ministry of International Co-operation and External Investment,
 Tunisia

- H.E. Ambassador Joaquin Pérez-Gómez, Spain

4.15 p.m. Coffee break

4.45-5.30 p.m. Discussion

5.30 p.m. Closing session

Chairman: H.E. Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Portugal

Reports by session rapporteurs

Concluding statement by H.E. Ambassador Mario Nobilo, Republic of Croatia

Concluding statement by H.E. Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Portugal

6.30 p.m. End of Seminar

II Reports by Session Rapporteurs

1 Opening session

Report by Elizabeth Abela, OSCE Secretariat

Representatives from all six OSCE Mediterranean Partners and other international officials gathered on 30 and 31 October 2001, in Dubrovnik, Croatia, to attend the annual OSCE Mediterranean Seminar, co-organized by the OSCE Secretariat (External Co-operation Section) and the host country at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Croatia. This year, the Seminar focused on economic and environmental commitments, their implementation and relevance for the Mediterranean region.

Apart from the six OSCE Mediterranean Partners – Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Tunisia and Morocco – representatives of the OSCE participating States, international organizations and non-governmental organizations attended the event.

"As an active and genuine Mediterranean country, Croatia welcomes the holding of this Seminar in Dubrovnik", said Mr. Roland Žuvanić, the Croatian Deputy Minister of Environment, in his opening address to the participants. "Croatia is a post-conflict society and one in transition, whose priorities have visibly shifted from the themes of the past and healing of the wounds of the last war to the development of issues of the future", he said. In his speech, Mr. Zuvanic identified a number of areas of relevance to Croatia as a Mediterranean country, namely tourism and security, transportation and shipping infrastructure, and water supply.

Mr. Daniel Daianu, representing the Romanian OSCE Chairmanship, stressed in his address that, over the past years, the OSCE had been engaged in an increasingly intensified dialogue with its partners for co-operation, both from the Mediterranean region and from Asia. "The OSCE recognizes that the economic divide represents one of the greatest threats to security and stability. Social and economic disparities, poverty and unemployment threaten our security and undermine our values", he said.

Mr. Daianu presented a number of initiatives taken by the Romanian Chairmanship, aimed at strengthening the Economic and Environmental Dimension of the OSCE. He also highlighted the contribution that the OSCE could make in that field, and urged all the participants to ensure that the recommendations of the Seminar were followed up.

In his message to the participants, the OSCE Secretary General, Ján Kubiš, stated that the OSCE was paying increasing attention to the building of credible, sustainable and trustworthy institutions, also in the economic field, as a basis for sustainable development, and as an integral part of the prevention of conflicts.

His statement stressed that the annual seminar afforded an important opportunity to take stock, while the Contact Group, which met throughout the year, was a regular mechanism for focusing on specific issues of mutual concern. He emphasized that better use needed to be made of that mechanism, both by the Mediterranean Partners and by the OSCE participating States, and that the Economic and Environmental Dimension could be better

integrated into the regular discussions taking place in Vienna in the context of the Contact Group.

Concluding the speeches at the Seminar, Ambassador Danielle Del Marmol-Guilbert, representing the Belgian European Union Presidency, said that the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and the annual Mediterranean Seminar provided the opportunity to conduct dialogue which enriches the knowledge acquired through the experience made by others. She added that "the themes of interest for the European Union and for the OSCE are converging and overlapping". So far, the Economic Dimension had not been emphasized in the dialogue with the Mediterranean Partners. The Economic Dimension is gaining more importance at a time when participating States are paying special attention to the necessity to re-balance the three dimensions: the security, the human, as well as the economic and environmental dimensions. The OSCE should reflect on the Economic Dimension together with the Partners.

2 Session 1: The Economic and Environmental Dimension and its implications for security – The role of civil society, the rule of law and good governance

Report by Christine Cadieux, Canada

The first session, entitled “The Economic and Environmental Dimension and its implications for security – The role of civil society, the rule of law and good governance”, enabled us to see, broadly speaking, how the theme of the seminar fits into the overall programme of the OSCE. The session was enlivened by the papers of four principal speakers, namely, Marc Baltes, Acting Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Ambassadors Buttigieg-Scicluna and Baddou, from the Maltese and Moroccan missions in Vienna, respectively, and Mr. Al-Shamayleh, Counsellor at the Jordanian Embassy in Vienna. A statement by the representative of the Council of Europe, as well as numerous comments by representatives of participating States and partners, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and representatives of civil society all helped to paint for us a more detailed picture of the present situation.

It was frequently stated that the OSCE was not an economic, financial aid or environmental protection organization, but that it remained true that the OSCE was an organization for regional security and co-operation of the first rank, and one whose political reach was obvious. Its added value lay in its role as an inter-institutional passageway, a promoter of regional co-operation across frontiers, a catalyst that released existing international energies and resources, and all that in keeping with the objectives of the Platform for Co-operative Security. Its comprehensive concept of security, bringing together the political and military as well as the human and the economic and environmental dimensions, made the OSCE an organization which, 26 years after adoption of the visionary Helsinki principles, was more relevant than ever. The possibilities it offered in terms of full and comprehensive solutions to new challenges and varieties of conflict could not be overlooked.

The interdependence of the Organization’s three dimensions was highlighted, as was the need to bring about a new balance among them. Strengthening of the economic and environmental dimension, a priority of the current Chairman-in-Office, was naturally stressed. Numerous speakers pointed out the causal relationship between security, on the one hand, and economic and social inequalities, poverty, bad governance, corruption, absence of transparency, institutional gaps, forced migration, environmental deterioration and unequal distribution of resources, on the other. All those elements constituted a threat to peace and political stability, exacerbated international, interregional and interethnic tensions, nourished extremism and terrorism and added to our humanitarian concerns. Those phenomena were, moreover, on the increase and required immediate attention.

The role of civil society, its importance and the need to ensure that it prospered were referred to repeatedly. If they were to contribute in a responsible and effective way to the democratic process, the new civil society actors must be able to count on a strong political environment and on good governance. Civil society was not in competition with other political actors; in fact it shared their concerns and was prepared to collaborate with them to the best of its ability.

However, the role of the State must be adapted and its structures adjusted accordingly. The OSCE had a role to play in bringing about a stronger commitment by civil society, NGOs, the business community, the academic community and the media, and making valuable strategic partners out of them. The importance of promoting and making fuller use of the Aarhus Convention was also mentioned. Finally, while pressures and influences often moved in a bottom-up direction, one speaker mentioned that that approach did not always work and that it was then more appropriate to agree on a top-down approach.

The Council of Europe, while recalling the principles and values at the heart of its organization, namely, democracy, individual human rights, the rule of law and good governance, took the opportunity to describe some of the efforts the Council was making in its struggle against corruption. Special mention was made in that context of the civil and criminal law conventions on corruption which had very recently been adopted. Additional information was provided on the programme of activities of the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity, better known as the North-South Centre, and also on the existence of the European Commission for Democracy through Law, otherwise known as the Venice Commission. It would seem that the OSCE should avoid developing new instruments and duplicating the efforts of others; rather, it should maximize and use for its own purposes what had been developed by other organizations and should constantly seek to identify the areas where its own added value could make a unique contribution.

Some participants pointed out the asymmetries existing between East and West and North and South, and recalled that the violent context in which such asymmetries sometimes played themselves out created an additional set of problems that could jeopardize the ability of States to engage in co-operation. The social and economic culture specific to each and every State was also something that had to be taken into account. It remained, however, imperative to co-operate with a view to enabling future generations not only to survive, but also to live together on an equal footing.

Continuing dialogue with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation on those questions was essential and would give a boost to confidence and co-operation. Whatever recommendations might emerge from the Seminar, it was essential that there should be focused follow-up, notably in the context of the monthly meetings of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

3 Session 2: The role of OSCE field activities: Case Studies

Report by Reda Mehigueni, Mouvement Ecologique Algerien

The second session, entitled “The Role of OSCE Field Activities: Case Studies”, provided an opportunity to explain the role of OSCE missions in the field and to evaluate their impact.

The session got under way with presentations by three participants: Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer in the OSCE Secretariat, Mr. Dušan Vasiljević, Economic and Environmental Officer in the OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and Mr. Jose Maria Troncoso, Economic and Environmental Officer in the OSCE Mission to Croatia. Afterwards, the discussion was opened to all Seminar participants, who approached the role of OSCE field missions from various points of view.

Ms. Fink presented a general overview of the activities of the OSCE missions in South-Eastern Europe. In describing for Seminar participants the work carried out by the OSCE in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, she made it clear that the region was characterized by different levels of economic development and confronted problems such as corruption, poverty and unemployment.

The OSCE was developing a balanced action programme that had an effect in a wide range of areas. Those areas included: sustainable management of energy and renewable energy resources, the promotion of small and medium-sized enterprises, eco-tourism and biodiversity, best practices, and consolidation of the capabilities of local decision-makers. All of those activities aimed to strengthen civil society and promote good governance. She pointed to the existence of parallels in development and capacity-building opportunities between the OSCE participating States and the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation. The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities stood ready to facilitate the exchange of lessons learnt between the regions, including best practices.

Along the same lines, Mr. Dušan Vasiljević presented an evaluation of the situation in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, both before the OSCE had become involved in the country and following the work carried out in matters of democratization, regional co-operation, consolidation of the institutional framework and so on. While pointing out the importance of making available additional funds to support the growing OSCE mission, he concluded by showing how, in a practical way, the OSCE could be instrumental in supporting and facilitating legislative reforms and institution-building in both the economic and environmental sectors.

For his part, Mr. Troncoso gave an account of the work done in Croatia so far and stressed the importance of the OSCE being able to adjust itself to new situations. Using the experience in Croatia as an example, he showed how, thanks to such activities as the organization of seminars on economic matters or on the solution of water problems, it had

been possible to strengthen and support the reconciliation process. He concluded that the Organization could play a helpful political role precisely through its work in the economic and environmental spheres.

The statements by a number of participants emphasized the importance of the current role of the OSCE missions, identified priorities and put forward proposals as to how the Organization might play its role even more competently and effectively than in the past. Those who spoke placed emphasis on the following points:

- Evaluation of problems in the field;
- Identification, together with governments, of needs and requirements;
- Enhancement of host countries' capacity to assess and evaluate the effectiveness of the Organization;
- As there are similar priorities to those of the Mediterranean Partners, it would be useful to exchange experience and find practical answers;
- Gradual adjustment of the Organization's programmes to requirements going beyond mere emergency programmes;
- Importance of linking three dimensions – social, security policy and economic – and ensuring that they were developed in a balanced and harmonious way;
- Identification of specific actions and involvement of the Mediterranean countries in those actions in the field;
- Joint identification of areas which required international co-operation followed by an appeal to the international community to contribute.

The discussions thus brought out a number of recommendations:

- Adaptation of mission mandates to changes at the national and international levels;
- Consideration of the possibility of organizing, under the aegis of the OSCE, itinerant and/or subject-specific missions rather than just geographically-defined missions, to deal with specific problem areas such as, for example, desertification;
- Development of partnership between the public and private sectors;
- Development of a communications mechanism, not only between the different players at the local level, but also with the Secretariat, to ensure better monitoring;
- Definition of an intermediary role between the players at the national level and between the different players at the regional and international levels;
- Possible identification by the OSCE Secretariat together with its Mediterranean Partners of specific co-operation projects and, wherever possible, involvement of Mediterranean observers and experts in field activities.

The Chairman concluded, on behalf of all the participants, by stressing that: “We constantly check the way in which our Organization operates” and “the OSCE is endeavouring to forge a new path and a new dynamism”.

4 Session 3: The relevance of the OSCE experience in the Economic and Environmental Dimension for the Mediterranean region in developing regional co-operation and cross-border opportunities

Report by Jamal Al-Shamayleh, Jordan

The first speaker, Mr. Øystein Bø, Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, referred to economic interaction with the Mediterranean region and the relationship between political and economic issues. The 1975 Helsinki Final Act had already emphasized the importance of economic and environmental issues for security in the OSCE region. Economic development and prosperity were prerequisites for longer-term political stability and sustainable peace.

The fundamental linkage between economic prosperity and political stability was underlined. The OSCE could contribute in that regard as an overarching framework for co-operative ventures. There must also be a political commitment to political and economic reform. The Mediterranean countries had shared interests in pollution prevention and many other common issues. Access to clean water resources was increasingly a source of tension for both security and economic reasons. Cross-border co-operation on water management could improve both the economic and the ecological environment.

A number of OSCE participating States were already engaging in regional economic co-operation through other organizations. It could be said that the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, the European Union and the OECD provided a broad framework for co-operation.

Economic regeneration and sustainable development could not be achieved by governments alone. Many OSCE countries had seen that the active participation of “civil society” was of fundamental importance. Since the early 1990s, the OSCE had been focusing efforts on addressing the problems of political instability in south-eastern Europe, and had made a major contribution to stability in the post-conflict situation in that part of Europe.

The second speaker, Mr. Zdravco Tomac, Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, and President of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly stated that, at the outset of the new millennium, the world was facing new dangers that could imperil not only all the visions and the belief in a better world, but also the level of freedom and human rights which had already been attained.

The world was facing new problems and challenges that could only be solved by joint action, by eliminating the causes of conflicts, and by establishing different forms of close co-operation of the Mediterranean countries.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly was of the view that the OSCE participating States should be open towards countries outside the OSCE area, especially in the Mediterranean area and in Asia, since there was only one world.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly had devoted a great deal of attention to the issues which were being discussed at the Seminar, such as using the economic and environmental dimension to create new instruments of conflict prevention and crisis resolution. The following are the basic principles for the implementation of its commitments in the area of economy and environmental protection:

- Democracy;
- Economic efficiency;
- Systematic implementation of the principle of good governance;
- Responsible, consistent and effective fulfilment of the countries' commitments in the area of environmental protection, thus promoting a common interest in a comprehensive solution to environmental problems;
- The enhancement of the role of civil society in economic and social development.

The third speaker, Mr Erwan Fouéré, Head of the OSCE and Council of Europe Section, European Commission, started by speaking about the role of the EU, and emphasized the importance of creating a climate of trust and confidence building through human contacts, and partnership in social, cultural and human affairs. The OSCE's role, through its comprehensive approach to security and conflict prevention, included eliminating risks to security stemming from socio-economic and environmental factors, as well as from human rights violations.

The Mediterranean dimension of European security had been recognized in several key international instruments. The Mediterranean Chapter contained in the Helsinki Final Act was a clear recognition of the historical, cultural and economic ties it shared with the OSCE region.

The Barcelona Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment and the Coastal Region of the Mediterranean had been a clear recognition, twenty six years earlier that the only way to address some of the key environmental challenges of the time was together, through combining expertise, resources and human endeavour for a common cause.

Speaking on the regional approach, he stressed that such an approach must involve not only governments, but also the business community and civil society. That co-operative approach was shared by the OSCE.

The Barcelona Process, launched in 1995 between the EU, its member States and the 12 Mediterranean countries, had adopted a number of policies: working together for peace and stability, creating shared prosperity through the establishment of Euro-Mediterranean free trade areas and helping to improve mutual understanding and tolerance among peoples of different cultures and traditions. Thanks to frank political dialogue, substantial progress had been achieved on crucial issues in the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, particularly in the economic area.

In the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership process, developing South-South trade was a key priority. The "Agadir Process" – bringing together Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Jordan – was an excellent example of what was required.

The European Union's MEDA Programme provided financial support for the objectives of the Euro-Mediterranean Association Agreements through bilateral, national allocations and also through regional programmes. He underlined the positive impact that initiatives in one region could have to stimulate similar initiatives in another. While there was no model of co-operation that fit all, there were certainly examples within the OSCE which could be of relevance to the Mediterranean and *vice-versa*.

The final speaker in session 3, Mr. Reda Mehigueni, representing the *Mouvement Ecologique Algérien*, underscored the importance of participation by civil society, including the younger generation, in all issues relevant to their future and their well-being. It was important to stress the existing divergences between North and South and to reflect the differences in the development of policies for the OSCE Mediterranean Partners, *inter alia* by taking into consideration the concept of interdependence. He pointed to the difficulty of integrating the Mediterranean Partners into overall OSCE activities. The southern countries needed to be integrated into globalization taking into consideration the policies and the economic specificities of each country.

In the ensuing discussion, it was underscored that interdependence should be the guiding principle; the human dimension was a central connecting factor, including the security and prosperity linkage.

A representative of a Mediterranean Partner for Co-operation stated that the existence of asymmetries in the Middle East conflict was not conducive to promoting co-operation along OSCE lines. Another participant argued that the process of European integration continued despite the East-West conflict, as the OSCE was a framework whereby all States, as well as civil society, could communicate. Parliamentarians were the channels for expressing the views of others.

Yet another delegate pointed to the asymmetries in the area of demographics and drew attention to the fact that the population density in the southern Mediterranean region was still in most cases much lower than that in the northern areas, where the intensity of the use of resources was much higher. Further, he observed that, in Europe, the integration model had helped to eliminate war as a phenomenon.

The representative of the Council of Europe stated that there was an urgent need to help new generations face problems candidly and free from prejudices. He referred to the potential of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe in Lisbon in promoting dialogue between all the parties concerned and considered the possibility of the Centre's facilities for use by the OSCE.

Addressing confidence building measures in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, one delegation mentioned the Middle East Peace Process as a specific example.

Another delegate referred to considerable differences existing within the OSCE, which for instance had demonstrated great flexibility in applying the Vienna Document 1999 to the situation in the Balkans. The planning and implementation of projects of common concern together with the Mediterranean Partners Co-operation (MPCs) was suggested. The importance of involving parliamentarians in the OSCE-Mediterranean dialogue was raised on various occasions.

The European Commission representative stated that the EU had no model to prescribe: differences needed to be taken into account and integration was a long process. Once a framework like that established by the Helsinki Final Act was in place, a dynamic process was created which enabled continuity no matter what the difficulties. Projects of common interest, however small, could indeed make a difference, and have a confidence building effect. The environment was a good platform for co-operation especially in the Mediterranean with its many shared problems.

5 Session 4: Partnership Opportunities in the Mediterranean Region (stocktaking and recommendations)

Report by Jean-Luc Fauré-Tournaire, France

This working session, which was greatly facilitated by the efforts of its moderator, H.E. Tajeddine Baddou, Ambassador of Morocco to the OSCE, did a great deal to clarify the situation with regard to existing partnerships among Mediterranean countries and opportunities for their further development, and it also enabled us to put forward recommendations on the partnership between the OSCE and its Mediterranean Partners.

Mr. Mohammed Ali Moualhi, Director General for Studies and Follow-up at Tunisia's Ministry for International Co-operation and Foreign Investment, described his country's experience in the Euro-Mediterranean integration process and the opportunities for co-operation and partnership that opened up to it, with a view to progressive integration into the world economy.

Disparities in development between the two shores of the Mediterranean were recalled: on the one side, there was a heavy dependence on the agricultural sector, with industry dominated by the raw materials and mining sector, and burdensome structural indebtedness. The difficulties of establishing significant trade relations between the countries of the southern shore were also mentioned. The Tunisian representative proposed the establishment of a Euro-Mediterranean development bank and the creation of a regional investment guarantee mechanism for small and medium-sized enterprises.

He recalled that Tunisia had been the first State on the southern shore of the Mediterranean to have signed an association agreement with the European Union, an agreement that provided, *inter alia*, for the progressive establishment of a free-trade zone between the two parties. The Euro-Mediterranean space envisaged for the year 2010 under the Euro-Mediterranean Process should also make it possible to achieve better integration among the States on the southern shore. The evolution of commercial agreements among Arab League States was also mentioned.

H.E. Mr. Joaquin Pèrez-Gómez, Representative of Spain to the OSCE, recalled the experience of the Barcelona Process. Spain would be taking over the presidency of the European Union from 1 January 2002, and he stressed the country's determination to develop that partnership during the Fifth Euro-Mediterranean Conference of Ministers for Foreign Affairs (Barcelona V), to be held in Valencia in April 2002, and also at the meetings of ministers of trade and industry, despite the difficulties encumbering the peace process in the Middle East.

The concerns felt by the Mediterranean Partners in connection with the enlargement of the European Union were also mentioned, but they were eased somewhat by interventions of others, who pointed out the desire of future European Union Member States to develop trade links with the States on the southern shore of the Mediterranean.

A number of recommendations were put forward for the further development of partnership between the OSCE and its Mediterranean partners:

- More active participation of the Mediterranean Partners in the OSCE's economic and environmental dimension, and the preparatory process leading up to the Economic Forum;
- The proposal was made to devote one session to the Mediterranean, of a preparatory Seminar leading up to the Economic Forum 2002, titled, "The sustainable use and protection of quality of water";
- To train experts from the Mediterranean Partners' countries, either through direct participation in OSCE activities or by visits of experts from OSCE participating States to countries on the southern shore of the Mediterranean. On that last point, two participating States supported the proposal put forward in the Permanent Council regarding the establishment of itinerant missions of experts who would visit participating States according to the need in their field, and such arrangements could, if implemented, be extended to the Mediterranean Partners;
- To expand contacts between parliamentarians from the two shores of the Mediterranean;
- To develop, particularly in the context of the work of the OSCE's Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, concrete co-operation projects benefiting from the added value of the OSCE. Those projects would have a bearing on the economic and environmental dimension, but they could also be related to any other activity connected with the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security.

All the participants, with the exception of one delegation, believed that the struggle against terrorism, handled in the OSCE by an informal working group, should also be taken up in the framework of the OSCE's dialogue with its Mediterranean Partners.

It was agreed that the recommendations should be further elaborated in Vienna in the course of the regular work of the OSCE's Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

6 Concluding session

Report by Elizabeth Abela, OSCE Secretariat

Ambassador Mario Nobilo, Head of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia, addressed the concluding session chaired by Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Head of the Permanent Mission of Portugal.

He welcomed the fact that Dubrovnik had been chosen as the venue for the OSCE Mediterranean Seminar. The event had provided the opportunity to exchange views and draw lessons from the concept of common security, in particular from the perspective of the Economic and Environmental Dimension.

It was important to continue with the OSCE-Mediterranean dialogue. There was need, for example, to tackle the sources of problems related to human trafficking and migration.

Speaking about Croatia, he stated that the country had shown tremendous courage to recover from the ruins of the war – and had forgiven and learnt from experience. The OSCE had contributed significantly to the post-conflict situation, he added.

At the outset, Ambassador Pimentel thanked the Croatian authorities for the warm welcome that had been extended to all participants – Dubrovnik had a dynamic community of citizens that in less than a decade had proved to dispose of unique strengths and recover from the misdeeds of barbarism.

He continued by stating that the OSCE had a specific role to play in the field of economic and environmental dimension, offering a platform for dialogue, identifying risks to security, and catalysing efforts aimed at addressing these risks and raising awareness. The OSCE community had over the years stood ready to respond to the requests formulated by the Mediterranean Partners corresponding to our common goals and remained committed to this dialogue as a means of building bridges.

In 2002, Portugal as the incoming Chair of the OSCE would do its best to provide solid and substantial programme of activities for next year within the OSCE-Mediterranean dialogue. It would do so in close co-operation with the future member of the OSCE Troika (Netherlands), that will assume responsibility of chairing the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation, as well as with the incoming Chairs of the European Union, Spain and Denmark, he said.

III List of documents circulated during the Seminar

#	Date	Author/Institution	Title	Language
001	30 Oct.	OSCE	Annotated Agenda	English
002	30 Oct.	OSCE	List of Participants	English
003	30 Oct.	Croatia, H.E. Roland Žuvanić, Deputy Minister of Environment	Opening address	English
004	30 Oct.	OSCE, Ms. Hannie Pollmann-Zaal, Head, Office of the Secretary General	Speaking Points – Opening Session	English
005	30 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Buttigieg Scicluna, Malta	Keynote address	English
006	30 Oct.	Mr. Marc Baltes, Acting Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	Keynote speech	English
007	30 Oct.	Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities	Keynote speech: Overview of Economic Dimension Activities in Southeast Europe (SEE): Added-Value of OSCE	English
008	30 Oct.	Mr. Daniel Daianu, Romania/CiO	Statement	English
009	30 Oct.	Mr. Jack Hanning, Council of Europe	Statement	English
010	30 Oct.	Mr. José María Troncoso, OSCE Mission to Croatia	Keynote Speech	English
011	30 Oct.	Council of Europe	Criminal Law Convention on Corruption Summary	English
012	30 Oct.	Mr. Dušan Vasiljević, OSCE Mission to FRY	Keynote speech Environmental Institutional Building	English
013	31 Oct.	Mr. Erwan Fouéré, European Commission	Remarks	English
014	31 Oct.	Mr. Jamal Al-Shamayleh, Jordan	Statement The role of civil society, the rule and good governance	English
015	31 Oct.	Mr. Zdravko Tomac, Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, and President of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	Keynote speech	English
016	31 Oct.	Mr. Robert M. Robinson, UNHCR Mission in Croatia	Statement	English
017	31 Oct.	OSCE Secretariat	Updated Agenda of the Fourth Session	English
018	31 Oct.	Mr. Øysten Bø, Royal Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	Keynote speech	English
019	31 Oct.	Mr. Reda Mehigueni, Algeria, NGO "Mouvement Ecologique Algérien"	Keynote speech	French
020	31 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Joaquin Pérez- Gómez, Spain	Keynote speech Europe and The Mediterranean: A New Framework of Relations	
021	31 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Portugal	Concluding statement	English
022	31 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador João de Lima Pimentel, Portugal	Conclusions, Follow-up and Recommendations of Workshop for the MPCs (25-26/6/01): "Challenges and Opportunities in Economic Development	English

023	30 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Danielle Del Marmol-Guilbert, Belgium/European Union	Guest speaker – Opening Session – Key-note speech	French
024	31 Oct.	Mr. Mohamed Ali Mouelhi, Director General of Studies and Follow-up, Ministry for International Co-operation and Foreign Investment, Tunisia	Key-note speech: "Les engagements concernant la dimension économique et environnemental: l'expérience de l'OSCE et son intérêt pour la région méditerranéenne"	French
025	31 Oct.	H.E. Ambassador Afif Hendaoui, Tunisia	Statement	French

IV List of Participants

OSCE PARTICIPATING STATES	
United States of America	
Mr. Andrew Steinfeld	Political Counsellor, United States Mission to the OSCE
Mr. David Salazar	Political Officer, United States Mission to the OSCE
Belgium/European Union	
H.E. Ambassador Danielle Del Marmol-Guilbert	Head of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the OSCE
Mr. Peter Maddens	Counsellor, Deputy Head of Mission of Belgium to the OSCE
European Commission	
Mr. Erwan Fouéré	Head of OSCE and Council of Europe Section
Bulgaria	
Ms. Tzvetina Tzvetkova	Senior Expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Canada	
Ms. Christine Cadieux	First Secretary, Canadian Delegation to the OSCE
Croatia	
H.E. Mr. Roland Žuvanić	Deputy Minister for Environment
H.E. Ambassador Dr. Mario Nobilo	Head, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the OSCE
Mr. Neven Pelicarić	Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Croatia to the OSCE
Ms. Višnja Barbir	OSCE Desk Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Ms. Natali Lulić	Directorate for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Mato Škrabalo	Directorate for Multilateral Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Spain	
H.E. Ambassador Joaquin Pèrez-Gómez	Head of the Permanent Mission of Spain to the OSCE
Mr. Alvaro De Salas Gimenez De Azcarate	Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Spain to the OSCE
France	
Mr. Jean-Luc Fauré-Tournaire	Counsellor, Permanent Representation of France to the OSCE
United Kingdom	
Mr. Ian Bond	Deputy Head of the UK Delegation to the OSCE
Greece	
Mr. Joannis Pappas	First Secretary for Economic and Commercial Affairs, Embassy in Zagreb

Italy	
H.E. Ambassador Guido Lenzi	Head of the Permanent Mission of Italy to the OSCE
Malta	
H.E. Ambassador Dr. Noel Buttigieg Scicluna	Head of Delegation of Malta to the OSCE
Mr. John Paul Grech	Counsellor, Deputy Head of Delegation of Malta to the OSCE
Norway	
Mr. Øystein Bø	Assistant Director-General, European Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Erik Paulsen	Second Secretary
Netherlands	
Mr. Karel Vosskühler	Deputy Head, Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the OSCE
Poland	
H.E. Ambassador Dr. Henryk Szlajfer	Head of Mission of Poland to the OSCE
Dr. Boguslaw Świetlicki	Minister Counsellor, Mission of Poland to the OSCE
Portugal	
H.E. Ambassador João António da Silveira de Lima Pimentel	Head of the Permanent Delegation of Portugal to the OSCE
Mr. António Moniz	Counsellor, Permanent Delegation of Portugal to the OSCE
Romania/OSCE Chairmanship	
Mr. Daniel Daianu	Representative of the Chairman-in-Office
Mr. Gabriel Leonte	Economic Dimension Expert/OSCE Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Russian Federation	
Mr. Andrey Yu. Rudenko	Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Holy See	
Rev. Mgr. Luigi Bianco	Counsellor of the Apostolic Nunciature in Croatia
Slovenia	
Mr. Damjan Bergant	Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the OSCE
Sweden	
H.E. Ambassador Nils Daag	Head of the Permanent Delegation of Sweden to the OSCE
Switzerland	
Mr. Josef Aregger	Minister, Deputy Head of the Swiss Delegation to the OSCE
Ukraine	
Mr. Mykola Khmelnytskyi	Counsellor, Embassy in Zagreb
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Ms. Cholchineepan Chiranond	Director-General, Department of European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Mr. Varapote Chensavasdijai	Second Secretary, Embassy in Vienna

MEDITERRANEAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION	
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Mr. Djamel Saidani	First Secretary, Embassy in Budapest
Mr. Reda Mehigueni	NGO "Mouvement Ecologique Algérien"
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H.E. Ambassador Sameh Hassan Shoukry	Embassy in Vienna
Mr. Shamel Nasser	Deputy Assistant Minister for European Affairs and European Organizations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Israel	
Mr. Joseph Ben Moustaki	First Secretary, Embassy in Vienna
Jordan	
Mr. Jamal Al-Shamayleh	Counsellor, Embassy in Vienna
Morocco	
H.E. Ambassador Tajeddine Baddou	Embassy in Vienna
Tunisia	
H.E. Ambassador Mr. Afif Hendaoui	Embassy in Vienna
Mr. Mohammed Ali Moualhi	Director-General of Studies, Ministry of International Co-operation and External Investment
OSCE Secretariat	
<i>Office of the Secretary General</i>	
Ms. Hannie Pollmann-Zaal	Head, Office of the Secretary General
Dr. Monika Wohlfeld	Head, Section for External Co-operation
Ms. Elizabeth Abela	Adviser, Section for External Co-operation
Ms. Aldona Szymanski	Secretary, Section for External Co-operation
<i>Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities</i>	
Mr. Marc Baltes	Acting Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
Ms. Helen Santiago Fink	Senior Economic Affairs Officer
OSCE Parliamentary Assembly	
Mr. Zdravko Tomac	Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament, President of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Mr. Milovan Petković	Secretary of the Croatian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Mr. Gustavo Pallares	Counsellor, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
Ms. Gordana Šeler	Interpreter, Croatian Parliament
OSCE Mission to Croatia	
Mr. Jose Maria Troncoso Perera	Economic and Environmental Officer
OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia	
Mr. Dušan Vasiliević	A/Head of Environmental and Economic Department
INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS	
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	
Mr. Robert Robinson	Chief of Mission, Croatia
Mr. Mohamed Hantosh	Senior Desk Officer, North Africa and Western Sahara Operation

Council of Europe

Mr. Jack Hanning	Head, Division of Relations with International Organizations and Non-member States, Directorate General of Political Affairs
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Organisation of the Islamic Conference

Mr. Mohammed Benabdeljalil	Director-Adviser to the Secretary General
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NGOs

Council of Europe NGO Liaison Committee

Mr. Marc Leyenberger	First Vice Chairperson, NGO Liaison Committee
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Mr. Cyril Ritchie	Head of the NGO Grouping "Civil Society in the New Europe"
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Guests of the host Country

H.E. Ambassador Pengiran Masrainah Pengiran Ahmad	Ambassador of Brunei to France
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Ms. Noorafzah Ahmad	Second Secretary, Embassy of Brunei in Paris
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Interpreters

Ms. Alix Sehr-Stewart

Ms. Angelika Hodonsky

Ms. Renate Horak

Ms. Olga Markides

V Seating arrangement

