

Chairmanship: Germany**1112th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 8 September 2016

Opened: 10.10 a.m.
Suspended: 1 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 5.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. Pohl

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Alexios Zannos; the new Permanent Representative of Canada to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Natasha Cayer; the new Permanent Representative of Belgium to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Paul Huynen; the new Permanent Representative of Norway to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Steffen Kongstad; and the new Permanent Representative of Iceland to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Gréta Gunnarsdóttir.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, offered his condolences to the families of the victims of recent terrorist attacks in Turkey and Afghanistan. He also extended condolences to Italy in connection with the earthquake that occurred in the central Apennines on 24 August 2016.

The Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, also offered condolences to the people of Uzbekistan on the death of President Islam Karimov. Uzbekistan thanked the Chairperson for his expression of sympathy.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF MISSION IN KOSOVO

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (PC.FR/26/16 OSCE+), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia

and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1292/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1266/16) (PC.DEL/1289/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1272/16), Turkey (PC.DEL/1265/16 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1296/16 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1303/16), United Kingdom (also on behalf of Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland) (Annex), Spain, Cyprus, Albania (PC.DEL/1300/16), Serbia (PC.DEL/1293/16 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE AGENDA FOR THE 2016 HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1219 (PC.DEC/1219) on the agenda for the 2016 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Georgia (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1269/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine in alignment) (PC.DEL/1288/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1267/16), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1297/16 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/1301/16 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1283/16 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1302/16)
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1279/16), Ukraine, United States of America (PC.DEL/1287/16)
- (c) *International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, observed on 30 August 2016:* Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1294/16), United States of America (PC.DEL/1268/16) (PC.DEL/1286/16), Switzerland (also on behalf of Iceland and Norway) (PC.DEL/1298/16 OSCE+), Ukraine

(PC.DEL/1270/16 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, Russian Federation
(PC.DEL/1274/16)

- (d) *Ongoing concerns about freedom of expression and freedom of the media in Azerbaijan*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1281/16) (PC.DEL/1285/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1290/16), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1273/16 OSCE+)
- (e) *International conference on Building a Nuclear-Weapon-Free World, held in Astana on 29 August 2016*: Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1282/16 OSCE+), Ukraine
- (f) *Freedom of expression and freedom of association in the Russian Federation*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1271/16 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1280/16) (PC.DEL/1284/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1291/16), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1278/16), Slovakia-European Union, Chairperson
- (g) *Illegal economic and other activities in the occupied territories of Azerbaijan*: Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1275/16 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1295/16), Slovakia-European Union, Germany
- (h) *Non-implementation of commitments to non-use of force by Azerbaijan*: Armenia, Azerbaijan
- (i) *Violations of the rights of persons with disabilities in the context of the 2016 Paralympic Games*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1276/16)
- (j) *Ensuring constitutional policing in the United States of America*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1299/16)

Agenda item 4: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Informal meeting of the OSCE Ministers for Foreign Affairs, held in Potsdam, Germany, on 1 September 2016*: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)
- (b) *Participation of the Special Representative of the Federal Government of Germany for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2016 and the OSCE Secretary General in the meeting of the European Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs held in Brussels on 30 August 2016*: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)

- (c) *Meeting between the Special Representative of the Federal Government of Germany for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2016 and the Co-Chairs of the Geneva International Discussions, held in Berlin on 2 September 2016: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)*
- (d) *Participation of the German Minister of State for Europe, Mr. M. Roth, in the conference “Confronting Anti-Gypsyism – The role of political leaders in countering discrimination, racism, hate crimes and violence against Roma and Sinti Communities”, held in Berlin on 6 September 2016: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)*
- (e) *Participation by the Special Representative of the Federal Government of Germany for the OSCE Chairmanship in 2016 and Ms. Y. Fahimi, State Secretary in the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, in the OSCE high-level conference on Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation in Supply Chains, held in Berlin on 7 and 8 September 2016: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)*
- (f) *Sixty-ninth meeting of the Ergneti Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM), held on 31 August 2016: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/158/16)*

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+): Director of the Office of the Secretary General*
- (b) *Participation of the Secretary General in the 2016 Bled Strategic Forum, held in Bled, Slovenia, on 5 and 6 September 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*
- (c) *Address by the Secretary General to the European Parliament’s Committee on Foreign Affairs, delivered in Brussels on 30 August 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*
- (d) *Participation of the Secretary General on 28 and 29 August 2016 in the European Forum Alpbach, held in Alpbach, Austria: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*
- (e) *Visit to Turkey by the leadership of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the Director of the Office of the Secretary General from 15 to 17 August 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*
- (f) *Fifth annual meeting of the OSCE Early Warning Focal Point Network, held in Vienna from 5 to 7 September 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*
- (g) *Regional meeting of heads of field operations in Eastern Europe, held in Chisinau on 2 September 2016: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)*

- (h) *Expert meeting on fostering co-operation in combating corruption and money laundering, held in Vienna on 5 and 6 September 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)
- (i) *OSCE high-level conference on Preventing Trafficking in Human Beings for Labour Exploitation in Supply Chains, held in Berlin on 7 and 8 September 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)
- (j) *Visit to eastern Ukraine by the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings from 1 to 5 August 2016*: Director of the Office of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/137/16 OSCE+)

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a letter by the Chairperson on the selection process for the appointment of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (CIO.GAL/157/16 Restr.)*: Chairperson
- (b) *Forum on capital punishment in the United States of America, to be held on 9 September 2016*: United States of America
- (c) *Early political elections in San Marino, to be held on 20 November 2016*: San Marino (PC.DEL/1277/16 OSCE+)
- (d) *Parliamentary elections in Romania, to be held on 11 December 2016*: Romania
- (e) *Response by the United Kingdom to the OSCE/ODIHR Election Expert Team Final Report on the general election held on 7 May 2015*: United Kingdom

4. Next meeting:

Tuesday, 4 October 2016, at 3 p.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.JOUR/1112
8 September 2016
Annex

Original: ENGLISH

1112th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1112, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Mr. Chairperson,

I am delivering this statement in my national capacity, and on behalf of Belgium, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, France, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Sweden and Switzerland.

Mr. Chairperson,

We greatly appreciate the work done by the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMiK), which carries out the weighty task of helping the Kosovo authorities to strengthen their institutions, and thank wholeheartedly Ambassador Jean-Claude Schlumberger for his excellent work during the last four years.

We welcome the fact that the Mission is adapting its activities to the needs of Kosovo.

In this regard we hope that it may be possible in future for interaction between participating States and technical representatives of the Kosovo administrations that co-operate with OMiK. We look forward to discussing options with Ambassador Jan Braathu and all participating States when Ambassador Braathu will report to the Permanent Council for the first time in his new capacity as OSCE Head of Mission in Kosovo.

I would be grateful if you could attach this statement to the journal of the day. Thank you.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1219
8 September 2016

Original: ENGLISH

1112th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1112, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1219
AGENDA FOR THE 2016 HUMAN DIMENSION
IMPLEMENTATION MEETING**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Decision No. 476 (PC.DEC/476) of 23 May 2002 on the modalities for OSCE meetings on human dimension issues,

Further recalling the provisions of the Helsinki Document 1992, Chapter I and Chapter VI, paragraph 9,

Recalling also its Decision No. 1218 (PC.DEC/1218) of 28 July 2016 on the dates and topics for the second part of the 2016 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting,

Decides to adopt the agenda for the 2016 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting as set out in the annex.

AGENDA FOR THE 2016 HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Warsaw, 19 to 30 September 2016

Monday, 19 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Opening plenary session
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 1: Democratic institutions, including address by the Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights

Tuesday, 20 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 2 (specifically selected topic): The international covenants on human rights and their importance for the OSCE human dimension
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 3 (specifically selected topic): The international covenants on human rights and their importance for the OSCE human dimension (continued)

Wednesday, 21 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 4 (specifically selected topic): Freedom of assembly and association
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 5 (specifically selected topic): Freedom of assembly and association (continued)

Thursday, 22 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 6: Fundamental freedoms I, including address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media

- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 7: Humanitarian issues and other commitments, including address by the OSCE Special Representative/Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings

Friday, 23 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 8: Rule of law I
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 9: Rule of law II

Monday, 26 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 10: Tolerance and non-discrimination I, including address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 11: Tolerance and non-discrimination I (continued), including prevention and responses to hate crimes in the OSCE area, and combating racism, xenophobia and discrimination, also focusing on intolerance on religious grounds

Tuesday, 27 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 12: Fundamental freedoms I (continued), including freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 13: Fundamental freedoms II, including freedom of movement

Wednesday, 28 September 2016

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 14: Tolerance and non-discrimination II, including ensuring equal opportunity for women and men in all spheres in life, including through implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality
- 1–3 p.m. Break

3–6 p.m. Working session 15: Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), including Roma and Sinti issues, including implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti

Thursday, 29 September 2016

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 16 (specifically selected topic): Rights of the child

1–3 p.m. Break

3–6 p.m. Working session 17 (specifically selected topic): Rights of the child (continued)

Friday, 30 September 2016

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 18: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work)

Closing reinforced plenary session (reinforced by the participation of human rights directors, OSCE ambassadors and heads of OSCE institutions):

- Any other business
- Closing of the meeting

PC.DEC/1219
8 September 2016
Attachment

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Georgia:

“Mr. Chairperson,

In accordance with the OSCE Rules of Procedure, paragraph IV.1(A)6, the Georgian delegation wishes to make an interpretative statement with regard to the adoption of the agenda of the 2016 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM).

While joining the consensus, the Georgian delegation considers it necessary to point out that some topical issues have been omitted from the 2016 HDIM agenda.

In this context, we would like to highlight the importance of addressing the issue of the forceful displacement. It goes without saying, that the increasing number of internally displaced persons and refugees in the OSCE area is one of the major concerns for our organization, as millions of people are deprived of their fundamental rights, first and foremost the right to return to their places of residence in dignity and safety.

It is our principled position that in the future, the agenda of the HDIM should clearly and unambiguously reflect issues of the internally displaced persons and refugees.

Mr. Chairperson, I ask that this statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you.”