



974th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 974, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1105
TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
OF THE TWENTIETH MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

(Kyiv, 5 and 6 December 2013)

I. Timetable

Thursday, 5 December 2013

- 9.20 a.m. Family photo
- 9.30 a.m. **Opening session (open)**
- Formal opening and adoption of the agenda
 - Address by a representative of the host country
 - Address by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office
 - Address by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
 - Report by the OSCE Secretary General
- First plenary session (closed)**
- Statements by heads of delegations
- 1 p.m. Working luncheon for the ministers for foreign affairs/heads of delegations
- Separate lunch for members of delegations
- 3–6 p.m. **Second plenary session (closed)**
- Statements by heads of delegations

- 7.30 p.m. Reception for members of delegations and the press
- 8 p.m. Official dinner for ministers for foreign affairs/heads of delegations

Friday, 6 December 2013

9.30 a.m. **Third plenary session (closed)**

- Statements by heads of delegations
- Adoption of Ministerial Council decisions and documents
- Any other business

Closing session (open)

- Address by a representative of the host country
- Formal closure (statements by the current and incoming Chairpersons-in-Office)

- 1.30 p.m. Press conference of the OSCE Troika ministers

II. Organizational modalities

1. The Twentieth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council will be conducted in accordance with the OSCE Rules of Procedure.
2. The Meeting will be held at the International Exhibition Centre in Kyiv. Delegations of the participating States will be provided with one seat at the table, at least two seats behind the table and additional seats in the plenary hall.
3. The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to attend the Meeting and make contributions:

The United Nations, the Council of Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

These organizations will be invited to address the Meeting in the above order after the statements by the participating States and the Partners for Co-operation.

4. The international organizations, institutions and initiatives mentioned in paragraph II.8 of Permanent Council Decision No. 951 of 29 July 2010 will be invited to attend the Meeting and make written contributions.

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Activities in parallel to the Ministerial Council meeting

On the margins of the Ministerial Council meeting, the OSCE Troika Ministers will hold a meeting with the ministers for foreign affairs of the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and a meeting with the ministers for foreign affairs of the Asian Partners for Co-operation.

The organizational modalities foreseen for the Twentieth Meeting of the Ministerial Council will not apply to the parallel activities.

**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 Turkey (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan):

“In accordance with the OSCE Rules of Procedure, Paragraph IV.1(A)6 and with regard to the decision just adopted by the Permanent Council on the timetable and organizational modalities of the 20th Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Turkey make the following interpretative statement:

We would first of all express our gratitude to the Ukrainian Chairmanship, for all its efforts to resolve the pending issue of inclusion of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries to the list of international organizations to be invited to OSCE Ministerial Council meetings. These efforts were in line with our expectations that were voiced in our previous interpretative statement and materialized in the inclusion of these organizations in the list that constituted the starting point to this year’s deliberations on this topic. Nevertheless, those efforts were not conducive to change the stance of two delegations that opposed the willingness of the Ukrainian Chairmanship to have an inclusive list. Those two delegations, instead of lifting their veto, elected to continue using their prerogative of blocking consensus.

The first stated reason of the veto opposed to these organizations was the joint communiqués issued by those organizations. We have responded that international organizations could express different views on many issues, that this diversity of views was only natural and that tolerance to the differing views of others was among the core values of this organization. We would like to remind that if we have to go along the road of questioning any international or regional organization that adopts communiqués that are not to our liking, then there would be very few international organizations that would remain in the list. It has to be recognized that exclusion is an attitude that we have not responded in kind once again this year.

The second series of reasons seem related to a personal interpretation and rejection of a statement made by one of the high ranking officials of these two organizations. Exclusion based on statements that are not of the liking of others is again an attitude that says much about the willingness to debate and convince the others with arguments.

We would like to remind all participating States that the CCTS and the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries, whose Secretary Generals have addressed the Permanent Council, are the result of the sovereign will of 4 participating States’ governments

of the OSCE to join in a regional grouping and co-operate on joint areas they believe are pertinent. This grouping is not directed to any other participating State. Calling into question the pertinence of the basis of the regional grouping established by four participating States of the OSCE, is an attitude which is in our opinion contrary to the spirit of many OSCE documents, starting with the Astana Commemorative Declaration adopted at the level of Heads of State and Government.

There is a clear discrepancy between on one hand, continuing to block and reject additions to the list and on the other, willing to take the lead on “strengthening trust and confidence among the participating States”. As we are about to reconfirm our engagement to the Helsinki+40 process next week in Kyiv, we believe it is most urgent to address this illogical situation.

In view of the difficulty of enlarging the list of international organizations that was adopted prior to the Astana Summit under the Kazakh Chairmanship, we deem it necessary to start consultations on updating the list in order to finalize it during the Swiss Chairmanship’s tenure in 2014. An informal working group that would determine criteria of participation to OSCE Ministerial Council meetings, taking into account current level of engagement with the OSCE, potential benefits that might arise from co-operation, can be conducive to update the list of 2010.

Indeed, if a solution cannot be found to this issue it will continue to occupy our agenda, when other important issues such as the Helsinki+40 process, require a change of mentality of all and for those opposing delegations, to reach a normalization in their attitude.

We hope that due consideration will be given in the future to the finalization of institutionalization of Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries, the address by their Secretary General to the Permanent Council and their participation to many OSCE events.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day, and to the decision in question.”