

**172nd Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 172, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 231**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its Decisions Nos. 28, 118 and 207, and reiterating its long-term interest in the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability in Central Asia, as well as taking into account the Chairman-in-Office's recommendations included in the report of his visit in the region (CIO.FR/6/98 Restr.),

Decides:

- to extend the mandate of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia until 31 December 2000 with annual reviews of the implementation of this mandate and of the activities of the Office.

The first such review will be undertaken by the Permanent Council after the summer recess in 1999.

The Permanent Council takes note of the proposals made by the Central Asian States with regard to further expansion of the OSCE presence in the region based on the mandate of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia. These proposals will be the subject of further discussions amongst the OSCE participating States.