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**Chairmanship: Finland****717th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 19 June 2008

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 1.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. A. Turunen

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

Agenda item 1: OSCE OFFICE IN MINSK

Head of the OSCE Office in Minsk (PC.FR/17/08 OSCE+), Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/498/08), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/491/08 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/518/08), Norway, United States of America (PC.DEL/502/08), Belarus, Chairperson

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE CO-ORDINATOR OF OSCE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIVITIES

Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (SEC.GAL/117/08), Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, in alignment) (PC.DEL/499/08), Uzbekistan, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/511/08 OSCE+), Canada, United States of America (PC.DEL/501/08), Azerbaijan (also on behalf of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), Belarus, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Signing of the Stabilisation and Association Agreement and an interim agreement between the European Union and Bosnia and Herzegovina:* Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/497/08), Montenegro (also on behalf of Albania, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia) (PC.DEL/513/08), Bosnia and Herzegovina
- (b) *Re-run of the parliamentary elections in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, held on 15 June 2008:* Slovenia-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; as well as Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/492/08), United States of America (PC.DEL/503/08), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- (c) *Legislative developments in Kyrgyzstan:* Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; 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/493/08), Kyrgyzstan
- (d) *Recent developments in South Ossetia and Abkhazia, Georgia:* Georgia, Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/495/08), United States of America (PC.DEL/504/08), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/509/08 OSCE+), Chairperson
- (e) *Participation in OSCE human dimension events:* Slovenia-European Union (with 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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/496/08)



Agenda item 7:       DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATION TO  
                          REAPPOINT THE OSCE SECRETARY GENERAL

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 854 (PC.DEC/854), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the recommendation to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General.

Chairperson (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision),  
Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision),  
Azerbaijan (Annex 2)

Agenda item 8:       REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
                          CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

*Renewal of the appointment of the Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia  
(CIO.GAL/89/08 OSCE+):* Chairperson

Agenda item 9:       REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

*Announcement of the distribution of the report of the Secretary General  
(SEC.GAL/119/08 OSCE+):* Director of the Office of the Secretary General

Agenda item 10:     ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4.   Next meeting:

Thursday, 26 June 2008, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/717  
19 June 2008  
Annex 1

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

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**717th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 4

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan are partners, friends and allies. We maintain good-neighbourly bilateral relations and close contacts within the framework of the OSCE, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Eurasian Economic Community, the Shanghai Co-operation Organization and other organizations.

Today the Russian delegation has joined the consensus on the decision regarding the mandate of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan.

We assume that the activities of this field presence will be carried out strictly in agreement with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan.

Priority tasks under the Office's mandate are, in our view, practical assistance to the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan in combating security threats, including illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and weapons, terrorism and extremism, and help in resolving economic and environmental problems and in providing a decent life for the citizens of the country. It is our hope that the OSCE Office in Tajikistan will do everything possible to cope with these tasks.

We trust that the Office will work in a transparent manner and report to the Permanent Council on its activities, on the implementation of its mandate and on the transfer of its functions to the authorities of the Republic of Tajikistan.

We request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting of the Permanent Council.

Thank you for your attention.



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

PC.JOUR/717  
19 June 2008  
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

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**717th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 7

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AZERBAIJAN**

In connection with the adoption of the Permanent Council decision on the recommendation to the Ministerial Council to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General, I should like to make the following statement.

The Republic of Azerbaijan supports the activities of Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as the OSCE Secretary General and welcomes the extension of his period of service.

However, we would like to register our disappointment that transparent and all-inclusive consultations with the participating States on the reappointment of the OSCE Secretary General in a condition of their full equality have not been ensured.

In this regard, the Delegation of Azerbaijan emphasizes the importance of upholding the principle of transparency in the Organization's work and particularly in its decision-making processes.

We welcome the intention of the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship to launch consultations with the participating States on the rule governing the reappointment of the Secretary General with a view to extending it to three years. We stand ready to contribute to this process.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.

**717th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 852**  
**MANDATE OF THE OSCE OFFICE IN TAJIKISTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Taking into account the work carried out since the establishment of the OSCE Mission to Tajikistan in 1994, and subsequently the OSCE Centre in Dushanbe in 2002, and also taking into account the substantial changes in the socio-political and socio-economic life of the country during recent years, as well as the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to further strengthen co-operation with the OSCE,

Recalling the decision of the CSCE Rome Council Meeting (1993), the Istanbul Document of 1999 (Charter for European Security), and the decisions of the Permanent Council No. 59 (PC.DEC/59) of 6 July 1995, No. 109 (PC.DEC/109) of 29 February 1996, No. 459 (PC.DEC/459) of 21 December 2001 and No. 500 (PC.DEC/500/Corr.1) of 31 October 2002,

Acknowledging the Organization's role as a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post conflict rehabilitation in the OSCE area, and the approach of the OSCE to the conduct of activities to promote OSCE principles and commitments, thereby contributing to efforts to enhance comprehensive and regional security and stability,

Decides that:

1. The OSCE Office in Tajikistan will perform the following tasks:
  - To promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Tajikistan within the OSCE framework, with special emphasis on the regional context, in all OSCE dimensions, including the economic, environmental, human and political aspects of security and stability;
  - To assist the Republic of Tajikistan in the development of common approaches to problems and threats to security, taking into account the commitments of the Republic of Tajikistan to contribute to stability and security, to prevent conflicts and take measures for crisis management, as well as in the areas of, *inter alia*, police-related activities, border management and security and anti-trafficking;

- To support the efforts of the Republic of Tajikistan to fully develop the economic and environmental dimension and implement commitments stipulated in the Helsinki Final Act and other documents of the Organization, *inter alia* in the fields of free trade, the improvement of business contacts and possibilities, the development of energy and transport, investments, scientific and technical exchanges, the protection of the environment and good governance with a special emphasis on the regional context;
  - To assist the Republic of Tajikistan in the human dimension to fully implement its commitments, *inter alia*, promoting ways and means for the OSCE to assist in the development of a legal framework and democratic political institutions and processes including the respect for human rights;
  - To facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office and OSCE bodies;
  - To co-operate with local authorities, institutions, and international organizations and NGOs;
  - To liaise and co-operate closely with the other OSCE field operations in the region in order to maintain coherence of the regional approach of the OSCE;
  - To continue efforts in building national capacity and expertise within its area of responsibility in order to facilitate an efficient transfer of tasks to the Republic of Tajikistan;
2. The activities of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan are conducted on the basis of mutual understanding and are carried out on the basis of common agreement. The OSCE Office in Tajikistan will perform its tasks and activities with full respect for the national legislation of Tajikistan, and report on them in a transparent manner;
  3. The Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan is appointed in accordance with the Staff Rules and Regulations;
  4. The juridical aspects of the OSCE presence in Tajikistan shall be specified in an agreement, to be signed between the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the OSCE;
  5. The OSCE field offices, presently located in Khujand, Kurgan-Tyube, Garm, Kulyab and Shaartuz, will continue their activities in accordance with the present mandate until 31 December 2008. The OSCE Office in Tajikistan may adjust the locations of the field offices in agreement with the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan;
  6. The current mandate will apply until 31 December 2008. The prolongation and any changes of the mandate will be for one year and subject to a new decision of the Permanent Council.





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

PC.DEC/853  
19 June 2008

Original: ENGLISH

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**717th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 853  
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE  
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its Decision No. 833 of 21 December 2007,

Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Ukraine and the OSCE of 13 July 1999,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine until 31 December 2008.



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

PC.DEC/854  
19 June 2008

Original: ENGLISH

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**717th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 717, Agenda item 7

**DECISION No. 854  
RECOMMENDATION TO REAPPOINT THE  
OSCE SECRETARY GENERAL**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the decision of the Third Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Stockholm in 1992 to establish the post of Secretary General and Ministerial Council Decision No. 15/04 of 7 December 2004 (MC.DEC/15/04) on the role of the OSCE Secretary General,

Further recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 1/05 of 10 June 2005 (MC.DEC/1/05) on the appointment of Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as Secretary General of the OSCE and considering that his first term of office expires on 20 June 2008,

1. Requests the Chairperson of the Permanent Council to transmit to the Chairman-in-Office the draft Ministerial Council decision on the reappointment of the OSCE Secretary General, as contained in document MC.DD/2/08 of 9 June 2008;
2. Recommends that the Ministerial Council adopt that decision through a silence procedure with the period of silence expiring on Wednesday, 25 June 2008, at noon CET.

PC.DEC/854  
19 June 2008  
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

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

By the delegation of Finland:

“The Finnish Chairmanship considers the decision to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General of utmost importance. The reappointment of the Secretary General for three years strengthens the OSCE’s capacity to act by providing continuity and facilitating long-term planning, the importance of which was emphasized at the recent Informal Quintet Ministerial Meeting.

The Finnish Chairmanship will as soon as possible initiate consultations with the participating States on the rule governing the reappointment of the Secretary General, with a view to extending it to three years.

It is our understanding that there is wide support among the participating States to extend the period of reappointment of the Secretary General. The Chairmanship will take this issue forward on the basis of this emerging consensus.

The Chairmanship reaffirms that the present reappointment is made without setting a precedent and that the OSCE rules governing the periods of service of the OSCE staff will be respected without exceptions. Let me thank all the participating States for showing flexibility in this matter.

Thank you very much.”

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

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“The delegation of Ukraine has joined the consensus on the decision on the recommendation to reappoint the OSCE Secretary General. We warmly welcome and support the forthcoming reappointment of Mr. Marc Perrin de Brichambaut as Secretary General by the OSCE Ministerial Council. We are pleased that the efficient and dedicated work of Mr. Brichambaut as OSCE Secretary General during his first term of office receives strong support from the OSCE participating States. Ukraine looks forward to the strengthened co-operation with the Secretary General during his next tenure.

The decision to be adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council on the reappointment of the OSCE Secretary General for a period of three years represents another exception to the existing rules governing the appointment of the Secretary General. The delegation of Ukraine reaffirms its long-standing position that this should not set a precedent for the future, and that the OSCE rules governing the periods of service of OSCE staff should be respected without exception. We will continue to adhere vigorously to this principle and will seek to ensure that it is applied consistently in the work of the Organization.

In this context, Ukraine welcomes the intention just expressed by the Finnish OSCE Chairmanship to initiate, as soon as possible, consultations with the participating States on the rule governing the reappointment of the Secretary General. It is our understanding that any decision to be taken in this regard will establish a firm rule, which should be strictly followed in the work of the Organization.

I would like to request that this interpretative statement be attached to the text of the decision as well as to the journal of the day.”