



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

PC.DEC/1378
17 September 2020

Original: ENGLISH

1281st Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1281, Agenda item 3

DECISION No. 1378
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF
THE 2020 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE

(12 and 13 October 2020, via Zoom)

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Permanent Council Decision No. 1377 of 17 September 2020 on the dates and venue of the 2020 OSCE Asian Conference, to be held via Zoom on 12 and 13 October 2020,

Further to the discussion within the framework of the Asian Partners for Co-operation Group,

Welcoming the offer by the Republic of Korea to host the 2020 OSCE Asian Conference,

Decides to hold the 2020 OSCE Asian Conference on the subject “Multilateral responses to the global security challenges”;

Adopts the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the Conference as set out in the annex.

**AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
OF THE 2020 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE ON MULTILATERAL
RESPONSES TO THE GLOBAL SECURITY CHALLENGES**

12 and 13 October 2020, via Zoom

**Co-organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea
and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

I. Agenda

Monday, 12 October 2020

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 9–10 a.m. | Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Representative of the host country (Republic of Korea)– Representative of the Chairmanship of the Asian Partners for Co-operation Group (Slovakia)– Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship (Albania)– Officer-in-charge/Secretary General of the OSCE |
| 10 a.m.–12 noon | Session 1: Regional confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) and exchanges of best practices between Europe and Asia <p>This session will focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Transparency: sharing military information– Building confidence: verification measures– Risk reduction: more confidence-building measures– Subregional CSBM agreements– The Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security: rules of inter- and intra-State relations for military and other security forces <p>Discussion</p> |
| 12 noon–1.30 p.m. | Lunch break |

1.30–3.30 p.m. Session 2: Mitigating trans-border environmental risks and challenges

This session will focus on:

- Co-ordinated disaster risk reduction and preparedness response in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, with implications for climate change and security
- Water and health: international co-operation and best practices in transboundary water management

Discussion

Tuesday, 13 October 2020

9.30–11.30 a.m. Session 3: The nexus between security and access to information in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

This session will focus on:

- The balance between freedom of information and protection of public health
- Access to diverse information as a means to help public in holding governments to account as well as a means for the public to judge the efforts taken to protect public health
- The restriction of human rights including freedom of information during the pandemics

Discussion

11.30 a.m.–12 noon Closing remarks

12 noon End of the Conference

II. Participation

The OSCE participating States are invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The Partners for Co-operation will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The OSCE executive structures and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference: the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (APEC), Central European Initiative (CEI), Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), Council of Europe (CoE), Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU), Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), United Nations (UN), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), UN Women, and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

Representatives of the members of the ARF may attend as guests of the host country. Other countries and organizations may also be invited by the host country.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations will be able to attend and contribute to the Conference in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices (advance registration required).

III. Timetable and other organizational modalities

The Conference will begin at 9.30 a.m. (opening remarks) on 12 October 2020 and end at 12 noon on 13 October 2020.

Each session will have a moderator and rapporteur. The consolidated summary will be forwarded to the Permanent Council.

The Rules of Procedure and working methods of the OSCE will be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Conference.

The opening remarks and closing session will be open to the media. The Conference will be held via Zoom. The working language will be English.