



328th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 334, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 3/01
BACK-UP PROCEDURE FOR THE OPERATION OF THE
OSCE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Recognizing the intention by the Netherlands to discontinue the operation of the Central Mail Server (CMS) of the OSCE Communications Network by 1 July 2001,

Expressing its sincere appreciation for network-related tasks performed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs during the past decade,

Taking into account that the FSC.DEC/6/00 of 21 June 2000 has not yet been implemented,

Underlining its commitment to sustain the uninterrupted operation of the network,

Decides to:

- Adopt the back-up procedure as outlined in the annex of this decision. As part of this procedure, relocate the existing CMS from The Hague to the Vienna premises of a company to be determined. This procedure enters into effect concurrently with the resumption of the negotiations on Phase II of the Network modernisation and will remain in effect for a period not to exceed one year from the entry into force of the contract, which will be reflected in the contract with the company;
- Task the technical experts of the Project Management Team to negotiate, on the basis of this decision, the details of this relocation with a company to be determined before 30 June 2001;
- Task the Secretariat to establish a Network Management Team (NMT) consisting of two professionals before 1 October 2001;
- Request the Secretary General to submit a supplementary budget request to the amount of EUR 350,000.

ANNEX

Since it is in the best interests of the OSCE to find a way of maintaining the existing network configuration, the following course of action is proposed:

Objective: Ensure the back-up procedure for the OSCE Communications Network operation until work on Phase II of its modernisation is completed.

Elements of the outsourcing solution will include:

1. The current X.25 Network environment is maintained;
2. Contractor provides services for hosting and 24-hour operation of the CMS including electrical power supply, air conditioning, periodic checks, etc.; contractor is responsible for the work of the CMS operators and prevents unauthorized access to the CMS as well as passing information to unauthorized personnel;
3. NMT of two persons established in OSCE Secretariat/CPC; request that current Dutch NMT trains new team;
4. NMT manages the Communications Network configuration and exercises full remote administration of the CMS - including the security system of the MS Exchange server;
5. NMT responsible for overseeing the outsourcing contract;
6. Communication circuits to send notifications to the CMS from capitals are the responsibility of each participating State – as is currently the case;
7. Communication circuits for the onward transmission of notification from the CMS to each participating State may be part of the outsourcing contract, or a separate contract. Currently the Netherlands PTT provider, KPN, forwards an invoice to the NMT for processing according to the accounting module (this is the annual bill each participating State receives from the OSCE for their share of the onward transmission costs);
8. Delegation experts will have the right to visit the CMS; such visits must be arranged in co-ordination with the NMT.