

769th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 769, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 896
FINANCIAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2008 AND
THE REPORT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations, particularly Regulations 7.05 and 8.06(e), as approved by the Permanent Council on 27 June 1996 (DOC.PC/1/96), as well as Step 5(b) of PC Decision No. 553 on the OSCE's Unified Budget Process,

Reiterating the importance of full transparency and accountability in the functioning of the OSCE,

Taking note of the Financial Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2008 and the Report of the External Auditor (PC.ACMF/28/09 of 19 June 2009),

Expressing its gratitude to the External Auditor, the Office of the Auditor General of Norway, for the work done,

1. Accepts the Financial Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 December 2008;
2. Requests the Secretary General to establish and submit to the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance not later than 31 October 2009 a work plan for follow-up to the recommendations of the External Auditor as reflected in its Report for 2008. Further requests the Secretary General to inform the Permanent Council through the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance about the implementation of this plan on a regular basis, taking into account guidance from the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance;
3. Welcomes the Audit Committee's regular review of the OSCE's systems of internal and external controls;
4. Welcomes the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine as the External Auditor for 2009 and looks forward to its external audit services.