
Bulgarian Chairmanship

492nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 29 January 2004

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 1.30 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. I. Petrov

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson (on behalf of the Permanent Council) and Bosnia and Herzegovina expressed their condolences to the European Union, Denmark and to the family of Mr. Fredricsson, the Head of the EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ireland-European Union and Denmark thanked the Chairperson.

3. Subjects discussed — Statements — Decisions:

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Situation in Georgia:* Ireland-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/50/04), Chairperson
- (b) *Pardoning of prisoners in Azerbaijan:* Ireland-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria and Romania, in alignment) (PC.DEL/55/04/Rev.1), Norway, Azerbaijan
- (c) *Election legislation of Kyrgyzstan:* Ireland-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/52/04), Switzerland, Russian Federation, Chairperson, Kyrgyzstan (PC.DEL/59/04)
- (d) *Proposals for constitutional change in Ukraine:* Ireland-European Union (PC.DEL/58/04), United States of America (PC.DEL/48/04), Canada, Ukraine
- (e) *Death penalty in the United States of America:* United States of America

- (f) *Minority situation in Latvia*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/44/04 Restr.), Latvia (PC.DEL/61/04), Canada, Chairperson

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR
DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR.GAL/6/04), Ireland-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/54/04), United States of America (PC.DEL/56/04), Azerbaijan (also on behalf of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine), Norway, Armenia, Switzerland (PC.DEL/45/04), Belgium, Canada, Russian Federation, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: OSCE CENTRE IN ALMATY

Head of the OSCE Centre in Almaty (PC/FR/1/04 Restr.), Ireland-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the candidate countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/51/04/Rev.1), United States of America (PC.DEL/60/04), Norway, Russian Federation, Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/46/04 Restr.), Chairperson

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE TOPIC AND DATE OF THE HUMAN
DIMENSION SEMINAR IN WARSAW

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 591 (PC.DEC/591), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the topic and date of the Human Dimension Seminar in Warsaw.

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE DATES OF THE HUMAN DIMENSION
IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 592 (PC.DEC/592), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the dates of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

Agenda item 6: DECISION ON THE TOPICS FOR THE SECOND PART OF
THE HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 593 (PC.DEC/593), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the topics for the second part of the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

Agenda item 7: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the written report on the activities of the Chairman-in-Office (CIO.GAL/6/04 Restr.):* Chairperson
- (b) *Meeting of the three mediators of the Transdniestrian conflict, held in Sofia on 27 January 2004:* Chairperson, Ireland-European Union (PC.DEL/53/04), Romania, Moldova

Agenda item 8: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General:* Secretary General
- (b) *OSCE Newsletter:* Secretary General (SEC.GAL/15/04 Restr.)
- (c) *Vacancy notice for the Director of the Office of the Secretary General:* Secretary General

Agenda item 9: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Supplementary Human Dimension Meetings in 2004:* Chairperson
- (b) *Chairman of the Working Group on a Border Security and Management Concept:* Chairperson
- (c) *Additional local elections in Croatia, to be held on 15 February 2004:* Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro
- (d) *Workshop on Integrated Border Management, held in Tirana from 21 to 23 January 2004:* Albania (PC.DEL/47/04)
- (e) *Meeting of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on the fight against racism and anti-Semitism, held in France on 27 January 2004:* France
- (f) *Inaugural statement of the President of Georgia:* Georgia (PC.DEL/57/04)
- (g) *Appointment of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media:* Ireland-European Union (PC.DEL/49/04), United States of America, Chairperson
- (h) *Matters of protocol:* Dean of the Permanent Council (Azerbaijan), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 5 February 2004 at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal