

Principles of Cooperation

ENGLISH only

1. Priorities of the chairmanships

In light of our joint bid for chairmanship of the OSCE for the years 2014 and 2015 at the Ministerial Council in Vilnius on 6 to 7 December 2011 we agree on principles of cooperation. Our overall goal is to improve the effectiveness and value-added of the OSCE by cooperating closely with all the participating states, international and regional organizations working in the same fields as the OSCE and bridging existing differences among participating states. We also strive to make the OSCE better known to a wider public. In addition to that and depending on the stage of discussion at the beginning of our chairmanships and on current events, we will promote, among others, the following issues:

- Institutional reform, legal framework and constitutional document
- Crisis Management Capacities, namely dialogue facilitation and mediation
- The advancement of the resolution of the so-called frozen conflicts
- Transnational Threats and Challenges
- Close cooperation with civil society
- Region to region cooperation

2. Biennial Work plan

In the sincere wish to improve the effectiveness of the OSCE's work in all three dimensions, we agree on the establishment of a biennial work plan for the chairmanships of Switzerland and Serbia in the course of 2013, in close coordination with the third troika member.

3. Agenda

We agree that the agendas of events of the chairmanship will be established in cooperation in order to ensure a meaningful follow-up and to develop a two-year process of dialogue in the different areas. In respect to OSCE activities and regional events, we aim at advancing, together with the participating states, already existing practices.

4. Modalities

In order to ensure better co-ordination and when dealing with a crisis or a conflict in which one of us has interests directly related to the issues at stake, we will seek advice from each other. In general, we will work closely together during our respective chairmanships especially through the following modalities:

- Exchange of diplomats for our OSCE delegations and task forces
- In view of earlier practice, the joint appointment of personal/special representatives, including a Swiss special representative on the Western Balkans whose mandate will cover political issues as well as field operations.
- Close cooperation with respect to the appointment of heads and deputy heads of missions and committee chairs.
- Close cooperation in the preparation of meetings, agendas, and upon mutual agreement and in accordance with the Rules of Procedure and already existing practices, invitation to guest speakers and participants.

Vilnius, 6 December 2011

Federal Department of Foreign Affairs


Micheline Calmy-Rey

Foreign Ministry of Serbia


Vuk Jeremic