
Bulgarian Chairmanship**497th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 26 February 2004

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. I. Petrov

3. Subjects discussed — Statements — Decisions:

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF ALBANIA, H.E. MR. KASTRIOT ISLAMI

Chairperson, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Albania (PC.DEL/123/04),
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/124/04), United States of America, Bosnia and Herzegovina,
Switzerland, Canada, Russian Federation, Georgia (also on behalf of
Azerbaijan, Moldova and Ukraine), Serbia and Montenegro, Croatia
(PC.DEL/130/04), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *Case of Radio Liberty's Ukrainian Service:* United States of America, Ukraine

(b) *Minority situation in Latvia and Estonia:* Russian Federation
(PC.DEL/131/04), Estonia, Latvia (PC.DEL/128/04)

(c) *Murder of an Armenian military officer in Budapest on 19 February 2004:*
Armenia (PC.DEL/127/04), Azerbaijan, Hungary, Ireland-European Union
(PC.DEL/126/04), United States of America (PC.DEL/129/04), Russian
Federation, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE PRESENCE IN ALBANIA FOLLOWED BY A SHORT PRESENTATION BY THE HEAD OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION DELEGATION IN TIRANA, AMBASSADOR LUTZ SALZMANN

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania (PC.FR/3/04 Restr.), Head of the Delegation of the European Commission Delegation in Albania (PC.DEL/122/04/Rev.1 OSCE+), 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/125/04), United States of America, Serbia and Montenegro, Albania

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE RECOMMENDATION TO APPOINT THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council, subject to a silence procedure expiring on Sunday, 7 March 2004, at 6 p.m., adopted the decision on the recommendation to appoint the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, the text of which is appended to this Journal.

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE OSCE CONFERENCE ON ANTI-SEMITISM

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 597 (PC.DEC/597), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the agenda, timetable and other organizational modalities of the OSCE Conference on Anti-Semitism.

Agenda item 6: 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/14/04):* Chairperson
- (b) *Meeting of the three mediators for a Transdniestrian settlement, held in Belgrade on 24 and 25 February (CIO.GAL/15/04):* Chairperson

Agenda item 7: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *EU-OSCE Ministerial Troika meeting, held in Brussels on 23 February 2004:* Secretary General

- (b) *OSCE South East Europe Cross Border Co-operation Programme:*
Secretary General
- (c) *Activities related to the Action against Terrorism Unit:* Secretary General
- (d) *Second Preparatory Seminar for the Twelfth OSCE Economic Forum:*
Secretary General
- (e) *Participation at the Annual Session of the UN Economic Commission for Europe on 25 February 2004:* Secretary General
- (f) *OSCE-Japan Conference, to be held in Tokyo on 15 and 16 March 2004:*
Secretary General
- (g) *Staffing issues:* Secretary General

Agenda item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Crash of the plane of the President of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:* Chairperson
- (b) *Matters of protocol:* Chairperson, Russian Federation

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 4 March 2004, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal