

Chairmanship: Ireland

903rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 1 March 2012

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. O’Leary

Prior to taking up the agenda, on behalf of the Permanent Council, the Chairperson welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Malta to the OSCE, Ambassador C. Scicluna.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA

Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia (PC.FR/2/12 OSCE+), Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/157/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/145/12), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/160/12 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/143/12 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/158/12 OSCE+), Serbia (PC.DEL/151/12 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE PROPOSED TRAINING PROGRAMME “AFGHANISTAN CAPACITY-BUILDING: STRENGTHENING THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE”

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1031 (PC.DEC/1031) on the proposed training programme “Afghanistan capacity-building:

strengthening the diplomatic service”, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Mongolia (Partner for Co-operation), Chairperson, Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation)

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1032 (PC.DEC/1032) on the extension of the appointment of the External Auditor, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Ukraine, Chairperson

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Meeting in the 5+2 negotiation format on the settlement of the Transdnestrian conflict, held in Dublin on 28 and 29 February 2012:* Chairperson, Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/152/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/147/12), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/162/12 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/169/12), Moldova (PC.DEL/150/12 OSCE+)
- (b) *Dismantling of a World War II memorial monument in Batumi, Georgia:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/164/12), Georgia
- (c) *Freedom of the media in Kyrgyzstan:* Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/156/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/149/12), Kyrgyzstan (PC.DEL/166/12)
- (d) *Current developments in Belarus:* United States of America (PC.DEL/146/12), Norway (PC.DEL/144/12), Denmark-European Union (PC.DEL/154/12), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/161/12 OSCE+), Belarus (PC.DEL/159/12)

- (e) *Manifestations of aggressive nationalism and neo-Nazism in some European Union member States: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/165/12), Estonia, Lithuania, Bulgaria, Latvia*
- (f) *Referendum on granting Russian the status of second State language in Latvia, held on 18 February 2012: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/163/12), Latvia (PC.DEL/170/12)*
- (g) *The cases of Mr. Y. Lutsenko and Ms. Y. Timoshenko in Ukraine: Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; as well as the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/153/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/148/12), Ukraine*
- (h) *The Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) and freedom of expression and data protection in the European Union: Denmark-European Union (PC.DEL/155/12)*
- (i) *Completion of the investigation into the events in Zhanaozen: Kazakhstan*
- (j) *Practices with regard to raising current issues at meetings of the Permanent Council: Chairperson*

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Address by Ms. L. Creighton, Minister of State for European Affairs of Ireland, at the Winter Meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/21/12)*
- (b) *Appointment by the Chairperson-in-Office of Mr. T. Picula as special co-ordinator of the OSCE observation mission for the presidential elections in the Russian Federation: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/21/12)*
- (c) *Meeting in the 5+2 negotiation format on the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict, held in Dublin on 28 and 29 February: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/21/12)*

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+): Secretary General*
- (b) *Attendance by the Secretary General at the Third Ministerial Conference of the Paris Pact Partners on Combating Illicit Traffic in Opiates Originating in*

Afghanistan, held in Vienna on 16 February 2012: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+)

- (c) *Attendance by the Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre at the annual meeting of the OSCE-Tajikistan Task Force, held in Dushanbe on 22 February 2012: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+)*
- (d) *Signature by the Permanent Representative of Australia, Mr. M. Potts, and the Secretary General of an OSCE-Australia grant agreement on 21 February 2012: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+)*
- (e) *Secretary General's hour with the heads of delegations, to be held on 9 March 2012: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+)*
- (f) *Open-ended working group on the conflict cycle: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/42/12 OSCE+)*

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Parliamentary elections in Armenia, to be held on 6 May 2012: Armenia*
- (b) *Ministerial meeting of the Central Asian Border Security Initiative, to be held in Vienna on 16 and 17 April 2012: Austria*
- (c) *Announcement of the next meeting of the Human Dimension Committee, to be held on 6 March 2012: Chairperson*
- (d) *Organizational matters related to the meeting of the Permanent Council to be held on 8 March 2012: Chairperson*
- (e) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Romania, Mr. C. Feruta: Dean of the Permanent Council (Liechtenstein), Romania, Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 8 March 2012, at 9 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1031

1 March 2012

Original: ENGLISH

903rd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 903, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1031
PROPOSED TRAINING PROGRAMME
“AFGHANISTAN CAPACITY-BUILDING: STRENGTHENING
THE DIPLOMATIC SERVICE”**

The Permanent Council,

Further to the discussion in the framework of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation,

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/11 on strengthening OSCE engagement with Afghanistan, which, *inter alia*, invites OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation to contribute, on a voluntary basis, to the efforts of the OSCE and international community, to promote the long-term security and stability of Afghanistan,

Further recalling that Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/11 also welcomes the use of the Partnership Fund to foster closer relations with Afghanistan and to support increased participation by Afghan representatives in OSCE activities across the three dimensions of security,

Additionally recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 5/11 on Partners for Co-operation,

Welcoming the offer by Mongolia to host a diplomatic training course for diplomats from Afghanistan,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provision of Permanent Council Decision No. 812 of 30 November 2007 on the establishment of a Partnership Fund,

Decides to approve the use of the Partnership Fund to finance the proposed training programme, “Afghanistan Capacity-Building: Strengthening the Diplomatic Service”.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

PC.DEC/1032
1 March 2012

Original: ENGLISH

903rd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 903, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1032
EXTENSION OF THE APPOINTMENT
OF THE EXTERNAL AUDITOR**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Financial Regulation 8.01 of 27 June 1996 (DOC.PC/1/96) concerning the OSCE External Auditor, in particular the provision that “The tenure of office shall normally be three years unless otherwise determined by the Permanent Council”,

Proceeding from the understanding that there should not be an overlap between the tenure of office of any OSCE External Auditor and the tenure of Chairmanship by the participating State which nominated that External Auditor,

Recalling Permanent Council Decision No. 935 of 15 April 2010 on the extension of the appointment of the current External Auditor, the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine, for the period of two years expiring on 30 April 2012,

Taking into account the Chairmanship’s invitation of open nomination made under CIO.GAL/10/12 of 27 January 2012 and the proposal made by the Delegation of Ukraine under PC.ACMF/3/12 of 18 January 2012, to extend the term of office of the current External Auditor by an additional one year,

Decides, on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent, to extend the appointment of the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine as OSCE External Auditor for an additional one year expiring on 30 April 2013.