

Second day of the Thirteenth Meeting
MC(13) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 6/05
FURTHER MEASURES TO ENHANCE CONTAINER SECURITY

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming the OSCE participating States' commitment to prevent and combat terrorism,

Recalling the participating States' obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1566 (2004), as well as the commitments in the Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the OSCE Charter on Preventing and Combating Terrorism,

Recalling its Decision No. 9/04 on enhancing container security, in which it recognized the vulnerability of transport networks, the important role container shipping plays in the global economy, OSCE's ability to work effectively with governments, representatives of business and civil society, and the importance of enhancing container security, as well as the need to minimize any adverse effects on the free flow of commerce of enhanced container security, and that enhanced container security will promote international trade and economic co-operation,

Welcoming the results of the OSCE Technical Experts Workshop on Container Security, held in Vienna on 7 and 8 February 2005 and the work subsequently carried out by the Informal Group of Friends of the Chair on Combating Terrorism,

Recognizing the work of the World Customs Organization (WCO) in creating global standards to enhance the security and facilitation of the international supply chain,

Noting that certain participating States are not members of the WCO and that some participating States have customs union agreements with other participating States by which responsibilities are assigned,

Decides:

- That all OSCE participating States should take measures recommended in the WCO Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade as soon as possible. To this end participating States that have not already done so, are encouraged to sign and

submit to the WCO Secretary General the declaration regarding implementation of the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade^{*} as soon as possible;

- That, in taking measures foreseen by the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, the OSCE participating States will in particular aim to promptly incorporate into their national procedures and regulations the Seal Integrity Programme for Secure Container Shipments, contained in the Appendix to Annex 1 of the Framework;
- That all OSCE participating States will inform each other on the measures taken to implement the above commitment;

Tasks the Secretary General to facilitate, as appropriate and within existing financial resources, technical assistance in this field by the WCO and other relevant international organizations to requesting participating States;

Tasks the Secretary General to promote, through and within the OSCE's existing organizational and logistic abilities, co-operation with the WCO and other relevant organizations in their efforts to enhance understanding of the objectives of the WCO Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade;

Encourages the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily implement this decision.

* The declaration regarding implementation of the Framework of Standards to Secure and Facilitate Global Trade, signed by the director general of the customs administration, records a State's intention to begin the process of implementing the Framework. It also records the fact that in implementing the Framework the administration may require capacity-building assistance.

MC.DEC/6/05
6 December 2005
Attachment

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH 79
(CHAPTER 6) OF THE FINAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE
HELSINKI CONSULTATIONS**

By the Delegation of Switzerland:

“In connection with the decision just adopted by the OSCE Ministerial Council, the Delegation of Switzerland wishes to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations:

Switzerland welcomes the efforts of the OSCE to enhance container security. In implementing the Decision on Further Measures to Enhance Container Security, Switzerland will respect the terms and conditions of any agreement providing for closer regional co-operation in the field of container security.

Switzerland requests that this interpretative statement be attached to the journal of today’s meeting of the Ministerial Council.”