
Chairmanship: Switzerland**1012th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 24 July 2014

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 12.55 p.m.
Resumed: 3.20 p.m.
Closed: 6.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador T. Greminger
Mr. G. Scheurer

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

Agenda item 1: ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE VENICE
COMMISSION, MR. GIANNI BUQUICCHIO

Chairperson, President of the Venice Commission (PC.DEL/940/14 Restr.), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/954/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/941/14), Russian Federation, Turkey (PC.DEL/976/14 OSCE+), Serbia (PC.DEL/975/14 OSCE+), Austria, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO
SKOPJE

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission to Skopje (PC.FR/21/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country 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/955/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/945/14),

Russian Federation, Turkey (PC.DEL/969/14 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Greece (Annex 1)

Prior to taking up agenda item 3, the Chairperson informed the Permanent Council that the Chairperson-in-Office, in a letter (CIO.GAL/125/14 Restr.) issued on 22 July 2014, had announced the adoption through a silence procedure of Permanent Council Decision No. 1129 (PC.DEC/1129) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Chairperson, Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Canada (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision), Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 4 to the decision), Italy-European Union

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE DEPLOYMENT OF OSCE
OBSERVERS TO TWO RUSSIAN CHECKPOINTS ON THE
RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN BORDER

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1130 (PC.DEC/1130) on the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Germany, United Kingdom (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision), France, Canada (interpretative statement, see attachment 4 to the decision), Sweden (PC.DEL/952/14 OSCE+), Austria (Annex 2), Secretary General

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE THEME, AGENDA AND
MODALITIES FOR THE TWENTY-THIRD ECONOMIC
AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1131 (PC.DEC/1131) on the theme, agenda and modalities for the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 5: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *Ongoing violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation and the situation in Ukraine:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/137/14 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/949/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and

potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/956/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/950/14), Canada (PC.DEL/963/14 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/970/14 OSCE+), Australia (Partner for Co-operation)

- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the continuing violations of the norms of international humanitarian law during the punitive operation in eastern Ukraine*: Russian Federation (PC.DEL/948/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/966/14), Ukraine, Germany
- (c) *Abduction of Ukrainian servicewoman Ms. N. Savchenko*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/971/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/958/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/962/14), Russian Federation, United Kingdom
- (d) *Case of Mr. A. Sodiqov in Tajikistan*: Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/957/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/946/14), Canada, Tajikistan
- (e) *Sentencing of Mr. H. Huseynli in Azerbaijan*: Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; and the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/959/14), Azerbaijan
- (f) *Ongoing human tragedy in Gaza*: Turkey, Canada (PC.DEL/980/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union, Kazakhstan, United States of America (PC.DEL/961/14), Jordan (Partner for Co-operation), Egypt (Partner for Co-operation), Israel (Partner for Co-operation), Algeria (Partner for Co-operation)
- (g) *Commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the liquidation of the Romani Camp at Auschwitz on 2 August 1944*: United States of America, Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, Monaco and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/960/14), France, Russian Federation, Spain

- (h) *Detention of Ukrainian journalist Mr. A. Skiba*: United States of America (PC.DEL/947/14), Russian Federation, Ukraine

Agenda item 6: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Consultations of the Geneva Co-Chairs in Tbilisi, Sukhumi, Tskhinvali and Moscow from 13 to 18 July 2014*: Chairperson
- (b) *Distribution of the progress report on the Helsinki+40 process (CIO.GAL/129/14 OSCE+)*: Chairperson, Serbia (PC.DEL/974/14 OSCE+)

Agenda item 7: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Visit of the Secretary General to Ukraine, from 21 to 23 July 2014*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/125/14 OSCE+)
- (b) *OSCE Needs Assessment Mission to the Russian checkpoints at Gukovo and Donetsk, conducted from 16 to 19 July 2014*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/125/14 OSCE+)

Agenda item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Hungary, Ambassador M. Boros*: Chairperson, Hungary
- (b) *World Day against Trafficking in Persons, to be observed on 30 July 2014*: Belarus (PC.DEL/973/14), Russian Federation
- (c) *Press release on the meetings between the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group and the Foreign Ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan, respectively (SEC.PR/441/14)*: France, Armenia, Azerbaijan
- (d) *Ninth Review Conference on Article IV of Annex I-B of the Dayton Peace Accords, held in Vienna from 15 to 17 July 2014*: Serbia (also on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Montenegro) (PC.DEL/953/14 OSCE+)

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



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

PC.JOUR/1012
24 July 2014
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

1012th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1012, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GREECE

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

Greece fully subscribes to the EU statement but I would like to make the following remarks under my national capacity with regard to the name of a particular State used by a few delegations in their responses to the speaker, which is in contradiction to OSCE rules, decisions and practice.

We remind partners that this State was admitted to the OSCE with the adoption of PC Decision No. 81 of 12 October 1995, according to which “This State will be provisionally referred to for all purposes within the OSCE as ‘the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia’ pending settlement of the difference which has arisen over the name of the State.”

This decision was taken by consensus therefore no other decision at a national or bilateral level can alter or be used to change what was agreed by all. In times where the implementation of the fundamental principles and norms of the Organization is tested, all OSCE partners should uphold their commitments respecting their own decisions.

We kindly ask you, Mr. Chairperson, to append this statement to the journal of the day.



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

PC.JOUR/1012
24 July 2014
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

1012th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1012, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA

Austria is pleased with the adoption of this decision. In light of the deterioration of the situation in eastern Ukraine and the general uneasiness created by the information about increasing flows of weapons and militants across the border from Russia, Austria regards this decision as a very modest first step, which urgently needs to be followed up by additional measures that make sure that all relevant border crossings are put under effective control.

I request that this statement is attached to the journal of the day.



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

PC.DEC/1129
22 July 2014

Original: ENGLISH

1010th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1010, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 1129
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014 on the deployment of an OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine,

Taking into account the request of the Government of Ukraine for the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (CIO.GAL/114/14 of 10 July 2014),

Decides:

1. To extend the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine for a further six months beyond the expiration of its current mandate on 20 September 2014;
2. To approve the arrangements as well as the financial and human resources for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine as contained in document PC.ACMF/24/14 for the period of the mandate extension covered by this decision. In this respect, authorizes the allocation of EUR 4,650,000 from the 2013 cash surplus, the assessment of EUR 4,858,000 on the basis of the field operation scale, with the remaining balance being financed through voluntary contributions.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

Mr. Chairperson,

The delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

“Ukraine expresses its gratitude to the OSCE participating States for the positive response to the request of the Government of Ukraine to extend the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission for the next period of six months.

The Government of Ukraine regards the adoption of this decision as the response of the Organization to assist the country in countering the severe consequences of the aggression pursued by the Russian Federation against Ukraine in breach of imperative norms of international law, the Helsinki Final Act, bilateral and multilateral agreements, which guarantee Ukraine’s territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-intervention in internal affairs of Ukraine.

In view of the current developments in the eastern regions of Ukraine, we underline the need for resumption of the Special Monitoring Mission full operation in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, reinforced also by employing the necessary technical means to effectively monitor the situation in the buffer zone adjacent to the border as part of broader efforts to stop inflow of weapons and militants into Ukraine.

The Government of Ukraine reiterates its original interpretative statement appended to the Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014 which remains in force. The mandate of the mission covers the entire territory of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders, including the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.”

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

In connection with the decision to extend the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, the United States would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

“The United States welcomes the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. In so doing, we reaffirm the interpretative statement we made on 21 March, upon adoption of the mandate, under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure, and we note that that interpretative statement remains in force. We remind the Permanent Council of the key elements of that statement.

- The United States reaffirms our firm commitment to Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders.
- We note that that the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine has a mandate to work throughout Ukraine, including in Crimea.
- We note that all participating States must co-operate with the Special Monitoring Mission and should take no actions to obstruct its access to Crimea or any other region of Ukraine.

In addition to recalling those key elements of our interpretative statement – a statement that remains in effect with the renewal of this mandate – we would also like to use this opportunity to offer our gratitude to all monitors, staff, and leadership of the Special Monitoring Mission. Some of the conditions that they have faced have been difficult and at times unacceptable – in particular that monitors of this Mission were kidnapped and held hostage for more than one month. Their kidnapping serves to remind us all of the particular challenges and risks these devoted professionals face as they monitor ongoing actions by the Russian Federation that contravene OSCE principles and commitments in Ukraine. We call upon the Russian Federation to cease providing weapons, financing, and fighters to the separatists. In addition to de-escalating the crisis, those measures will improve the safety in which the Special Monitoring Mission monitors should be operating.”

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

PC.DEC/1129
22 July 2014
Attachment 3

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Canada:

Mr. Chairperson,

Canada wishes to make an interpretative statement under Paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure in connection with the PC Decision on the Extension of the Mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

“Canada welcomes the adoption of this decision, which will ensure continued objective reporting on the ground, particularly in eastern Ukraine. We thank the Swiss Chairmanship for its efforts in facilitating this extension.

As we noted when the Permanent Council adopted the Special Monitoring Mission’s mandate in March, we reiterate our full support for Ukraine’s sovereignty and territorial integrity within its internationally-recognized borders. OSCE monitors should be granted ‘safe and secure access throughout Ukraine’, as defined by the Constitution of Ukraine.

In this respect, we also reiterate that we will not recognize Russia’s illegal annexation of Crimea.”

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.

PC.DEC/1129
22 July 2014
Attachment 4

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“In joining the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, the Russian Federation proceeds from the assumption that the geographical area of deployment and activities of the mission in question is strictly limited by the parameters of its mandate approved by Permanent Council Decision No. 1117 of 21 March 2014, which reflects the political and legal realities existing at that time as a result of the fact that the Republic of Crimea and Sevastopol are an integral part of the Russian Federation.

Russian experts are prepared to continue participating in the work of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine in the interests of national reconciliation and the maintenance of peace, stability and security for all the country’s residents.”

I request that this statement be attached to the decision adopted and included as an attachment to the journal of the day.



1012th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1012, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1130
DEPLOYMENT OF OSCE OBSERVERS TO TWO RUSSIAN
CHECKPOINTS ON THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN BORDER**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the Joint Declaration made in Berlin on 2 July 2014 and wishing to contribute to its implementation,

Accepting the invitation of the Russian Federation to deploy OSCE observers to the two Russian border checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo as announced in the Joint Declaration and extended in the letter by the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office of 14 July 2014,

Decides:

1. To deploy without delay OSCE observers to the two Russian border checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo on the Russian-Ukrainian border in accordance with the above-mentioned declaration and letter;
2. To task observers, operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency, with monitoring and reporting on the situation at the checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo, as well as on the movements across the border;
3. The Observer Mission will be headed by a Chief Observer appointed by the Chairperson in Office in accordance with the provisions of the OSCE Staff Rules and Regulations for the appointment of the heads of mission;
4. The Observer Mission will be deployed for up to three months. The mandate of the mission can be renewed by a decision of the Permanent Council;
5. The Observer Mission will consist of 16 civilian monitors operating 24/7 in teams, and a small logistic and administrative support team;
6. The OSCE observers will have a safe and secure environment to fulfil their mandate;
7. The Chief Observer will regularly report through the Chairmanship to the Permanent Council;

8. To approve the arrangements and the financial and human resources for the Observer Mission as contained in document PC.ACMF/29/14. In this connection, the Permanent Council authorizes the release of 337,800 euros from the 2013 cash surplus;
9. Tasks the Secretary General to immediately finalize with the Russian Federation the practical modalities regarding the deployment of the observers, including the capacities, privileges and immunities, security and safety of the Observer Mission and its members.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the decision on the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

“Ukraine stands committed to implementation of the Berlin Joint Declaration of 2 July 2014 in its entirety. At the same time we note that since the adoption of the aforementioned Declaration, the security situation in the east of Ukraine has deteriorated due to the activities of the terrorist groups operating in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, armed with heavy and sophisticated weapons, which are illegally supplied from the Russian territory.

The deployment of the OSCE observers only at two Russian checkpoints will have a marginal effect on addressing the existing grave security concerns, in particular regarding increased flows of weapons, equipment and mercenaries from the Russian Federation into Ukraine.

With a view to contributing to the effective monitoring of the Russian-Ukrainian border and hindering further flows of weapons, equipment and mercenaries from the Russian Federation, more vigorous measures should be taken by the OSCE through deployment of the OSCE observers along Russian-Ukrainian border.

Ukraine calls on the Russian Federation to stop providing assistance to the terrorist organizations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, establish effective border control on the Ukrainian-Russian border, fully abide by existing relevant agreements in this sphere and finally put an end to the illegal inflow of Russian mercenaries and weaponry to Ukraine.”

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

PC.DEC/1130
22 July 2014
Attachment 2

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

In connection with the adoption of the decision for the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border, the United States would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

“The U.S. finds it deeply regrettable that the Russian Federation was only willing to take the minimal steps provided for in this decision. Despite questions and requests from other participating States to expand the geographic scope of the observer mission, Russia would only accept a limited-scope mission, covering just two border checkpoints – which account for approximately one kilometer of the 2,300 kilometer border. We are therefore concerned that due to Russia’s undue restrictions of its work, the mission will be unable to provide a real accounting of the scope of Russia’s flows of illegal arms, funding, and personnel to support the separatists in eastern Ukraine or any meaningful assurance that Russia is acting to stop the illegal flow of arms and other support to separatists in eastern Ukraine.”

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to make an interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the OSCE Rules of Procedures.

“The United Kingdom has been ready to join consensus on this decision, and we recognize the hard work of the Chairmanship and the OSCE Secretariat in preparing it. It may make a small contribution towards confidence-building.

But we need to be realistic about what we are agreeing. It will contribute to implementing just one small part of the Berlin Declaration of 2 July.

It does not address the more substantive elements of that Declaration, not least on co-operation and information exchange between Russia and Ukraine – and we encourage Russia to implement these as well as the deployment of OSCE observers.

This decision will not contribute significantly to the stated goal of the Berlin Declaration, of fostering peace and stability in Ukraine. Nor will it deliver effective control of the Ukrainian-Russian border, or help to stem the continuing flow of fighters, money and weapons from Russia into Ukraine.

As my Prime Minister told the House of Commons on 22 July, we continue to hope that Russia will use the current moment to find a path out of this festering and dangerous crisis by ending its support for the separatists. The decision we have adopted today is only the smallest of steps. Much, much more needs to be done.”

I ask that this statement be added to the journal of the day.

PC.DEC/1130
24 July 2014
Attachment 4

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Canada:

Mr. Chairperson,

Canada wishes to make an interpretative statement under Paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure in connection with the PC decision on the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border.

“Canada regrets the limited geographic scope of the observer mission we have just decided upon. This will prevent the mission from providing a credible accounting of the scope of the flows of Russian weapons and militants to support the separatists in eastern Ukraine.

Canada nevertheless joined consensus on the decision just adopted in the hope that this small first step will pave the way for a more ambitious international border monitoring effort along the Russian-Ukrainian border.”

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.

1012th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1012, Agenda item 4

DECISION No. 1131
THEME, AGENDA AND MODALITIES FOR THE
TWENTY-THIRD ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to Chapter VII, paragraphs 21 to 32, of the Helsinki Document 1992; Chapter IX, paragraph 20, of the Budapest Document 1994; Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004; Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/06 of 26 July 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 743 of 19 October 2006; Permanent Council Decision No. 958 of 11 November 2010; and Permanent Council Decision No. 1011 of 7 December 2011,

Relying on the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension (MC(11).JOUR/2) and Ministerial Council decisions related to the environment, energy and water management,

Building on the outcomes of past Economic and Environmental Forums, as well as on the results of relevant OSCE activities, including follow-up activities,

Decides that:

1. The theme of the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum will be: “Water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through co-operation”;
2. The Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum will consist of three meetings, including two preparatory meetings, one of which will take place outside of Vienna. The concluding meeting will be held from 14 to 16 September 2015 in Prague. These arrangements shall not set a precedent for future meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum. The Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2015, will organize the above-mentioned meetings;
3. The agenda of the Forum will focus on the impact of the following topics on the comprehensive security of the OSCE area:
 - Water governance as a prerequisite for environmental sustainability and for economic and social prosperity and stability;

- Promotion of dialogue in good water governance within the OSCE area through sharing of best practices and lessons learned;
 - Raising awareness of the importance of water governance at all levels;
 - Water governance within the context of disaster risk reduction;
4. The agendas of the Forum meetings, including timetables and themes of the working sessions, will be proposed and determined by the OSCE Chairmanship for 2015, after being agreed upon by the participating States in the Economic and Environmental Committee;
 5. Moreover, having a view to its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will review the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension. The review, to be integrated into the agenda of the Forum, will address OSCE commitments relevant to the theme of the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum;
 6. The discussions at the Forum should benefit from cross-dimensional input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, under the guidance of the OSCE Chairmanship for 2015, and from deliberations in various international organizations;
 7. Moreover, having a view to its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will discuss current and future activities for the economic and environmental dimension, in particular the work in implementation of the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension;
 8. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level by senior officials responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation in their delegations of representatives from the business and scientific communities and of other relevant actors of civil society would be welcome;
 9. As in previous years, the format of the Economic and Environmental Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions;
 10. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum: Asian Development Bank; Barents Euro-Arctic Council; Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation; Central European Initiative; Collective Security Treaty Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia; Council of Europe; Council of the Baltic Sea States; Economic Cooperation Organization; Energy Community; Eurasian Economic Commission; Eurasian Economic Community; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Green Cross International; European Investment Bank; International Atomic Energy Agency; International Energy Agency; International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA); International Fund for Saving the Aral Sea; International Maritime Organization; International Monetary Fund; International Red Cross and Red

Crescent Movement; International Committee of the Red Cross; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC); OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID); Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM; Organisation of Islamic Cooperation; Regional Cooperation Council; Secretariat of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification; Southeast European Cooperative Initiative; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Cooperation Organisation; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Commission on Sustainable Development; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations Human Settlements Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction; United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees; UN Women; United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia; World Bank Group; World Health Organization; World Meteorological Organization; World Trade Organization; Advisory Group on Environmental Emergencies; Joint UNEP/OCHA Environment Unit; International Strategy for Disaster Reduction; United Nations Children's Fund; Capacity for Disaster Reduction Initiative (CADRI); United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination; International Civil Defence Organization; World Food Programme; Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery; Inter-Parliamentary Union; Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe (REC); Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC); and other relevant organizations;

11. The OSCE Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate in the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum;

12. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum;

13. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum;

14. In line with the practices established over past years with regard to meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum, the outcomes of the preparatory meetings will be reviewed at the concluding meeting of the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum. The Economic and Environmental Committee will further include the conclusions and policy recommendations of the Twenty-Third Economic and Environmental Forum and the reports of the rapporteurs in its discussions so that the Permanent Council can take the decisions required for appropriate policy translation and follow-up activities.