1015th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 4 September 2014
   
   Opened: 10.10 a.m.
   Suspended: 1 p.m.
   Resumed: 3.05 p.m.
   Closed: 4.30 p.m.

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

   The Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Hungary to the OSCE, H.E. Ambassador Károly Dán, and the new Charge d’Affaires and Head of Delegation of Uzbekistan to the OSCE, Mr. Rustamdjan Khakimov, both of whom delivered some remarks to mark the assumption of their posts.

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

   Agenda item 1: REPORT OF THE PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE OSCE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE FOR ARTICLE IV OF ANNEX 1-B OF THE DAYTON PEACE ACCORDS, MAJOR GENERAL M. TORRES

   Chairperson, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords (CIO.GAL/132/14/Corr.2 OSCE+), 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 Andorra, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1042/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/1018/14), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1047/14), Montenegro (also on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia) (PC.DEL/1033/14
Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION IN KOSOVO

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (PC.FR/24/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries 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 countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Monaco, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1039/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/1019/14), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1048/14), Turkey, Albania (PC.DEL/1037/14 OSCE+), Serbia (PC.DEL/1043/14 OSCE+)

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) Ongoing violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation and the situation in Ukraine: Chairperson, Ukraine (PC.DEL/1034/14 OSCE+), 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 countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1038/14), Canada (PC.DEL/1026/14 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1020/14), Turkey (PC.DEL/1045/14 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1044/14), Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre

(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/1028/14), Ukraine, United States of America (PC.DEL/1049/14) (PC.DEL/1050/14), Germany, Chairperson

(c) Situation in Ferguson, Missouri, United States of America: United States of America (PC.DEL/1021/14), Russian Federation, Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 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 Andorra, Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1041/14), Ukraine

(d) Ongoing blockade of Transdniestria: Russian Federation, Moldova (PC.DEL/1030/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/1022/14), Ukraine

(e) Denial of entry into Latvia to Mr. I. Panevkin: Russian Federation, Latvia (PC.DEL/1036/14 OSCE+)
(f) Freedom of peaceful assembly and association in the Russian Federation: Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1040/14), United States of America (PC.DEL/1024/14), Russian Federation

(g) Border clashes between Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan: United States of America (PC.DEL/1023/14)

(h) Attack on British MP and journalist Mr. G. Galloway: Russian Federation, United Kingdom

Agenda item 4: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

Concluding meeting of the twenty-second OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum on “Responding to environmental challenges with a view to promoting co-operation and security in the OSCE area”, to be held in Prague from 10 to 12 September 2014 (CIO.GAL/157/14): Chairperson

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Preparation of the 2015 Unified Budget Proposal: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/138/14 OSCE+)

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) Signing of the Declaration on the Role of the State in Addressing the Issue of Persons Missing as a Consequence of Armed Conflict and Human Rights Abuses: Bosnia and Herzegovina (also on behalf of Croatia, Montenegro and Serbia) (PC.DEL/1025/14 OSCE+), Chairperson

(b) Visit of the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to Moscow on 4 and 5 September 2014: OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Russian Federation, Ukraine

(c) Financial contributions to the Special Monitoring Mission in Ukraine: Monaco, Ireland (Annex)

(d) Parliamentary elections in Moldova, to be held on 30 November 2014: Moldova (PC.DEL/1032/14)

(e) Conference on the Western Balkans, held in Berlin on 28 August 2014: Germany, Austria, Albania (also on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia)

(f) Parliamentary elections in Ukraine, to be held on 26 October 2014: Ukraine (PC.DEL/1035/14 OSCE+)
(g) OSCE/UNODC Mediterranean Regional Counter-Terrorism Expert Workshop on “Kidnapping for Ransom: Enhancing Implementation of the International Legal Framework against Terrorism”, to be held in Valletta on 16 and 17 September 2014: Chairperson

(h) Organizational matters: Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Monday, 8 September 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal
STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF IRELAND

Mr. Chairperson,

I take the floor to record that Ireland has made an extrabudgetary contribution of EUR 100,000 to the Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine.

With our partners in the European Union, we have supported the efforts of the Chair-in-Office and the OSCE in the present crisis. As we said in our EU statement this morning, with which of course Ireland is associated, in these difficult days we support the work of the OSCE-facilitated Trilateral Contact Group, which has another important meeting tomorrow. We hope that by creating the conditions for a sustainable ceasefire, the Contact Group can open a space for a creative political process, as reflected in President Poroshenko’s peace plan and in the principles implicit in a national dialogue embracing all Ukraine.

The suffering imposed by any continuation of the conflict – as documented by international agencies – imposes responsibilities on all parties.

Ireland is committed to the long-term strategy of strengthening – without sacrifice of principle – the role of the OSCE as a platform from which to develop a co-operative approach to security based on shared values and actions across all three dimensions. The “micro” of individual situations can benefit from the “macro” of this wider political objective. Let us not forget that many of our partner countries in Asia and the Mediterranean are looking to our Europe of the 57 to become more than the sum of its parts and to set an example of co-operative security and settling disputes by peaceful means. We support the Swiss Chairmanship in its efforts to promote longer-term thinking within the OSCE.

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