

Chairmanship: Serbia

1071st PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 15 October 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1.10 p.m.
Resumed: 3.15 p.m.
Closed: 5.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Žugić

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, Luxembourg-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 Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1344/15), the United States of America (PC.DEL/1334/15), Switzerland, Canada (PC.DEL/1372/15 OSCE+), Georgia (PC.DEL/1369/15 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1360/15), Mongolia, Belarus (PC.DEL/1381/15 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, the Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1357/15), the Holy See, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia, Uzbekistan and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly extended their condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist attacks in Turkey on 10 October 2015. Turkey (PC.DEL/1376/15 OSCE+) thanked the Chairperson and delegations for this expression of sympathy.

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

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA

Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova (PC.FR/36/15 OSCE+), Luxembourg-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, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1341/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/1333/15), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1378/15 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1355/15 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1352/15), Canada (PC.DEL/1370/15 OSCE+), Ukraine, Moldova (PC.DEL/1386/15),
Chairperson

Agenda item 2: **PRESENTATIONS BY THE CHAIRPERSONS OF THE SECURITY COMMITTEE; THE ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE; AND THE HUMAN DIMENSION COMMITTEE**

Chairperson of the Security Committee (PC.DEL/1348/15 OSCE+),
Chairperson of the Economic and Environmental Committee (PC.DEL/1374/15 OSCE+), Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee (PC.DEL/1361/15), Luxembourg-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 Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1342/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/1335/15), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1380/15 OSCE+), Turkey, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1353/15), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1384/15 OSCE+), Chairperson

Agenda item 3: **REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES**

Chairperson

- (a) *Ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1385/15 OSCE+), Luxembourg-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 Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1345/15), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1351/15 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1354/15 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1337/15), Canada (PC.DEL/1373/15 OSCE+)
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1359/15) (PC.DEL/1364/15) (PC.DEL/1366/15), Ukraine
- (c) *Presidential elections in Belarus, held on 11 October 2015:* Belarus (PC.DEL/1377/15 OSCE+), Luxembourg-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 San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1346/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/1336/15), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1356/15), Canada (PC.DEL/1371/15 OSCE+), Kazakhstan

- (d) *World and European Day against the Death Penalty, observed on 10 October 2015:* Luxembourg-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; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1347/15), Switzerland (also on behalf of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Mongolia), Australia (Partner for Co-operation), Belarus (PC.DEL/1379/15 OSCE+)

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

None

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Visit of the Secretary General to Moscow, from 11 to 12 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (b) *Meeting with Ambassador P. Maurer, Director of the International Committee of the Red Cross, held on 8 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (c) *Participation in the United Nations Security Council Open Debate and High-Level Review of Women, Peace and Security, held on 13 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (d) *Workshop on gender aspects of labour migration management, held in Malta from 7 to 9 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (e) *Participation of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in the Global Forum on Migration and Development, to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 14 to 16 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (f) *Seminar on countering trafficking in human beings through collaboration between law enforcement and social service providers, being held in Kyiv on 15 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)
- (g) *Expert Workshop on Media Freedom and Responsibilities in the Context of Counter-Terrorism Policies, held in Bucharest from 7 to 8 October 2015:* Director for Management and Finance (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)

- (h) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/184/15 OSCE+)*: Director for Management and Finance

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Report by the Dutch Safety Board on the downing of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17*: Netherlands (PC.DEL/1365/15 OSCE+), Luxembourg-European Union (PC.DEL/1350/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/1338/15), Canada (PC.DEL/1376/15 OSCE+), Belgium (PC.DEL/1382/15 OSCE+), United Kingdom, France (PC.DEL/1339/15), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1363/15), Norway, Ukraine, Australia (Partner for Co-operation) (Annex 1)
- (b) *Release of the International Religious Freedom Report for 2014 by the United States Department of State*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1343/15)
- (c) *Recent visit of OSCE Permanent Representatives to a military training facility in Yavoriv, Ukraine*: United States of America (PC.DEL/1340/15), Russian Federation, Ukraine
- (d) *Parliamentary elections in Croatia, to be held on 8 November 2015*: Croatia (PC.DEL/1362/15 OSCE+)
- (e) *National Day on holocaust remembrance, observed on 9 October 2015*: Romania (Annex 2)
- (f) *Information on efforts to deal with the flows of refugees and migrants that continue to come into Europe*: Luxembourg-European Union (PC.DEL/1349/15)
- (g) *Referendum on constitutional amendments in Armenia*: Armenia (PC.DEL/1368/15)
- (h) *Meeting of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation, to be held on 16 October 2015*: Switzerland
- (i) *Reminder letters sent to participating States to pay their outstanding assessed contributions*: Chairperson
- (j) *Appeal for nominations for the post of OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media*: Chairperson
- (k) *Open-ended working group on the participation of international organizations in the Twenty-Second Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council*: Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 22 October 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/1071
15 October 2015
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

1071st Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1071, Agenda item 6(a)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRALIA
(PARTNER FOR CO-OPERATION)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The Australian delegation would like to echo the comments made by colleagues from the Netherlands, the European Union, the United States of America, Canada, Belgium, the United Kingdom, Norway and Ukraine. Australia thanks the Netherlands and the Dutch Safety Board for leading the aircraft accident investigation, for bringing its report to the attention of the Permanent Council, and for subsequent clarifications made just now by the Dutch Ambassador. The Dutch Safety Board's report is the result of a meticulous forensic investigation. It has been prepared in accordance with Annex 13 to the Convention on International Civil Aviation following an extensive independent civil investigation in accordance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) requirements.

With regard to comments made by the Russian delegation, I note that a number of countries, including Australia and Russia, participated in the Dutch Safety Board led international investigation conducted in consultation with the ICAO, and in accordance with ICAO rules and guidelines.

The Dutch Safety Board's findings are based on an objective analysis of available evidence. The report concludes that flight MH17 was downed by a BUK surface-to-air missile. Regarding comments by the Russian delegation, I note that the report deals with a range of theories as to what happened, including those put forward by Russia, and specifically considers and rules out other possible causes.

Mr. Chairperson,

Australia continues to grieve for all 298 people on board, including those who called Australia home. Today, our thoughts are with the families and loved ones as they deal with the findings of the Dutch Safety Board's report. We should never forget the families of the victims.

Australia, together with other countries represented on the Joint Investigation Team (Belgium, Malaysia, the Netherlands and Ukraine), is committed to ensuring that UN Security Council resolution 2166's demand for accountability is implemented in full. We are

deeply conscious that the families and friends of the victims of MH17 around the world are anxious for information about the criminal investigation and possible prosecutions.

We are committed to completing the criminal investigation as expeditiously as possible without compromising its integrity.

We are also carefully considering the available prosecution options in order to prepare for the most effective prosecution mechanism.

In closing, I would like to reiterate Australia's appreciation to the OSCE and the Special Monitoring Mission for their assistance in facilitating access to the site following the tragedy.

I request that this statement be included in the journal of the day.

Thank you.



1071st Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1071, Agenda item 6(e)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ROMANIA

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to inform the Permanent Council that Romania marked on 9 October the National Day on Holocaust Remembrance. On this occasion, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Mr. Bogdan Aurescu, said the following:

“By remembering the victims of the Holocaust in Romania, we mark the beginning and not the end of our responsibilities in dealing with the recent history, so that the tragedy of the victims of the Holocaust will never repeat again. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania fully supports the efforts to educate the young generation in the spirit of respecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, so that it understands the consequences of any discriminatory, anti-Semitic or racist action.

The anniversary of 9 October marks the conscious and sincere acknowledgement of a painful episode in our national history. The National Day on Holocaust Remembrance is a moment of contemplation for us all, an opportunity to reflect on the tragic consequences of extremist manifestations on community relationships, human values, democracy, and on respecting human rights.

The Holocaust remembrance will be one of the main issue to be addressed within the debates of the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance – IHRA, whose Chairmanship will be taken over by Romania in 2016. By appointing Romania to take over the Presidency of the Organization, the efforts made by the Romanian authorities to preserve the memory of the Holocaust through the legal and administrative instruments developed on a national and local level, including through collaboration with the civil society and Jewish organizations, are being recognized.”

Minister Aurescu stressed that “Romania will significantly contribute to the fulfilment of the Alliance’s mandate to promote education, commemoration and research of the Holocaust.”

Let me reiterate Romania’s determination to further contribute through diplomatic means to strengthening the legal and institutional instruments meant at sanctioning anti-Semitism, as well as any other racist, xenophobic, discriminative and intolerant manifestations, in conformity with its OSCE commitments.

I would like to kindly request to attach this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.