

71st Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 71, Agenda item 5

DECISION No. 123

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the decisions of the Ministerial Council at its third meeting in Stockholm in 1992 concerning the appointment of a Secretary General and his mandate (Annex),

Further recalling that the term of office of the current Secretary General expires on 14 June 1996, and that Dr. Wilhelm Höynck does not seek re-appointment,

Expressing its gratitude to the outgoing Secretary General for his invaluable contributions to strengthening the OSCE and to developing its activities and for his dedication and integrity in the discharge of his duties,

Recommends to the Ministerial Council that it appoint Ambassador Giancarlo Aragona as Secretary General of the OSCE for a period of three years with effect from 15 June 1996.

(CSCE/3-C/Dec.2, Annex 1)

The Secretary General of the CSCE

1. The Ministers decide to establish the post of Secretary General of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe. The Secretary General will derive his/her authority from the collective decisions of the participating States and will act under the guidance of the Chairman-in-Office.
2. The Secretary General will be appointed by the Council by consensus upon recommendation of the CSO and Chairman-in-Office for a period of three years. This period may be extended for one further term of two years.
3. The Chairman-in-Office will be assisted by an open-ended ad hoc group in preparing his/her recommendation on the appointment to the CSO and Council.
4. The open-ended ad hoc group will assist the Chairman-in-Office in preparing recommendations to the CSO and the Council on the administrative and financial implications of the appointment of a Secretary General, including accommodation, staff requirements and budget.
5. The Ministers agreed on the following mandate for the Secretary General.

MANDATE

- (i) The Secretary General will act as the representative of the Chairman-in-Office and will support him/her in all activities aimed at fulfilling the goals of the CSCE. The Secretary General's tasks will also include the management of CSCE structures and operations; working closely with the Chairman-in-Office in the preparation and guidance of CSCE meetings; and ensuring the implementation of the decisions of the CSCE.
- (ii) The Secretary General will oversee the work of the CSCE Secretariat, the CPC Secretariat and the ODIHR. The Secretary General will answer for the effective performance of CSCE staff to the Chairman-in-Office, the Council of Ministers and the CSO.
- (iii) The Secretary General will assist the Chairman-in-Office in publicizing CSCE policy and practices internationally, including maintaining contacts with international organizations.
- (iv) As the CSCE's Chief Administrative Officer, the Secretary General will advise on the financial implications of proposals and ensure economy in the staff and support services of the institutions.
- (v) The Secretary General will prepare an annual report to the CSCE Council.
- (vi) The Secretary General will perform such other functions as are entrusted to him/her by the Council or the CSO.