

Chairmanship: Lithuania**870th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 23 June 2011

Opened: 10.20 a.m.
Suspended: 1.30 p.m.
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.
Closed: 3.40 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Norkus
Mr. A. Krivas

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the OSCE, Ambassador Galib Israfilov.

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

Agenda item 1: 2010 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OSCE RECRUITMENT
POLICIES

Chairperson, Secretary General (SEC.GAL/103/11), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/622/11), Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Armenia, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/615/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/634/11), Switzerland (PC.DEL/639/11), Azerbaijan

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON
FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA

Chairperson, OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (FOM.GAL/3/11/Rev.1), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/621/11), Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; as well as San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/614/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/631/11), Belarus (PC.DEL/623/11), Ukraine (PC.DEL/610/11), Switzerland (PC.DEL/640/11), Norway (PC.DEL/628/11), Turkey (PC.DEL/629/11), Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/613/11/Corr.1), Azerbaijan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkmenistan

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1000 (PC.DEC/1000) on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Situation in Belarus:* Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; as well as the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/616/11), Belarus (PC.DEL/624/11), Russian Federation
- (b) *Closure of the Human Rights Watch office in Tashkent:* Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/620/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/635/11), Russian Federation, Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/625/11)
- (c) *The death penalty and consular access in the United States of America:* Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic

Area; as well as Andorra, Azerbaijan, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/619/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/632/11)

- (d) *Freedom of the media in Tajikistan*: Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/618/11), Tajikistan (PC.DEL/611/11)
- (e) *Draft law on parental responsibility in Tajikistan*: United States of America (PC.DEL/633/11), Tajikistan (PC.DEL/612/11)

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Death of Ms. Jelena Bonner, founding member of the Moscow Helsinki Group, on 19 June 2011*: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/127/11)
- (b) *Announcement of the distribution of the report on the activities of the Chairperson-in-Office (CIO.GAL/127/11)*: Chairperson

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/105/11 OSCE+)*: Secretary General
- (b) *Visit of the Secretary General to Moscow on 22 June 2011*: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/105/11 OSCE+)

Agenda item 7: FAREWELL TO THE OUTGOING OSCE
 SECRETARY GENERAL, AMBASSADOR MARC PERRIN
 DE BRICHAMBAUT

Chairperson, Secretary General (SEC.GAL/106/11 OSCE+), Russian Federation, Hungary-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/617/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/636/11), Egypt (Partner for Co-operation), Kazakhstan, Holy See, Ireland, Belarus

Agenda item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Aeroplane accident near Petrozavodsk, Russian Federation, on 20 June 2011:* Russian Federation
- (b) *Review of human dimension commitments in OSCE fora:* United States of America (PC.DEL/637/11/Corr.1), Chairperson of the Human Dimension Committee (Switzerland), Kazakhstan, Austria
- (c) *Follow-up to the final report of the OSCE/ODIHR election assessment mission on the presidential elections in Austria, held on 25 April 2010:* Austria
- (d) *Process of selecting the OSCE Secretary General:* OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (Annex 1)
- (e) *Presidential and local elections to be held in Bulgaria on 23 October 2011:* Bulgaria (Annex 2)

4. Next meeting:

To be announced



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

PC.JOUR/870
23 June 2011
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

870th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 870, Agenda item 8(d)

STATEMENT BY THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Mr. Chairperson, dear colleagues,

I will not repeat my full statement of last week on the position of the Parliamentary Assembly on the selection process (PA.GAL/1/11), but please register that this position remains valid. However, remarks I received from colleagues and a letter suggest that further clarifications are needed, and I have been instructed to make them today.

I would like to point out that for many years now, since the start of the reform discussions, the Parliamentary Assembly has promoted the idea of a role for the Parliamentary Assembly in the selection of the Secretary General as one means of strengthening the Organization and of giving the Secretary General a political role. We do not see the Council of Europe as any less effective an organization than the OSCE, because in that organization there is a co-operative – though not always satisfactory – and open selection process, and its Parliamentary Assembly conducts the election. We therefore will continue to speak out on conceptual issues and procedures of the OSCE and to urge for OSCE reform.

Let me also repeat that we have consistently spoken out in favour of a political level candidate, which is not the same as speaking out in favour or against a particular individual. Our friend Lamberto Zannier is a highly qualified diplomat, and the Parliamentary Assembly co-operated very well with him during his time as Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre. We do not doubt his professional qualities, so it is not because of such doubts that we insist on expressing our disappointment both regarding the selection procedure and its present outcome.

We believe that, by coming to a quick conclusion of the process, the Organization, which does not mean the Chairmanship only, but rather this august body here, will miss a golden opportunity to step out of the shadow in which it finds itself in many of our countries. A political figure of high standing in the post of the Secretary General would have this potential. We do not have the gift of prophecy, which is why we do not know for sure whether this will have the desired effect, but it would have been worth trying harder to achieve this objective.

As I said last week, we also consider the selection procedure as such a disappointment, and again this concerns everybody around the table. We do not think it was as transparent as it deserved to be, and we believe that some candidates have not been treated fairly.

After the field of candidates was reduced, we would have expected the Organization to take a deep breath and see how this affects the desired profile of the OSCE. Instead, we again witnessed a rush, as demonstrated aptly by this morning's 20 minute meeting of the Preparatory Committee and the prospect of having another one – as well as probably a Permanent Council – on Saturday morning. The exact preferences expressed for individual candidates have still not been disclosed to all of us. We cannot see any reasons against their disclosure, especially in light of the vigorous public discussion in some participating States about the two candidates who have been opposed. All of this does not contribute to strengthening the Organization.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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

PC.JOUR/870
23 June 2011
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

870th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 870, Agenda item 8(e)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BULGARIA

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to inform the Permanent Council that the National Assembly of my country has decided that the forthcoming presidential and local elections in Bulgaria should be held on 23 October 2011.

In line with the Copenhagen commitments, the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria invites the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, OSCE participating States and other appropriate institutions and organizations that may wish to do so, to observe the election process.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

PC.DEC/1000
23 June 2011

Original: ENGLISH

870th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 870, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1000
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE
OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Referring to the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Ukraine and the OSCE of 13 July 1999,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine until 31 December 2011.