

Chairmanship: Ireland

898th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 19 January 2012

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.20 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. O’Leary

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

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Recent constitutional changes in Hungary:* United States of America (PC.DEL/15/12), Russian Federation, Norway (also on behalf of Canada, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/21/12), Hungary (PC.DEL/22/12)
- (b) *Continued operation of the Guantanamo Bay detention facility:* Russian Federation, Belarus (PC.DEL/35/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/18/12)
- (c) *Human rights and fundamental freedoms in Belarus:* Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries 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 countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/29/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/19/12), Belarus (PC.DEL/36/12)
- (d) *Parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan, held on 15 January 2012:* Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries 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; the

European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/27/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/20/12), Canada, Turkey (PC.DEL/31/12), Belarus (PC.DEL/37/12), Russian Federation, Kazakhstan

- (e) *Recent incident in the security zone of the Transdniestrian conflict:* Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries 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 countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/28/12), United States of America (PC.DEL/16/12), Turkey (PC.DEL/32/12), Ukraine (PC.DEL/38/12 OSCE+), Russian Federation, Georgia (PC.DEL/34/12), Moldova (PC.DEL/23/12)
- (f) *Military exercises by the Russian Federation in the Southern Caucasus:* Georgia (PC.DEL/33/12), Russian Federation
- (g) *Ukraine's Chairmanship of the OSCE in 2013:* United States of America (PC.DEL/17/12), Ukraine
- (h) *Ratification by the Mongolian Parliament of the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty:* Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries 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; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/30/12), Switzerland (PC.DEL/24/12), Turkey, Mongolia (Partner for Co-operation), Chairperson

Agenda item 2: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Visit by the Chairperson-in-Office to Vienna:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/5/12)
- (b) *Visit by the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for the South Caucasus, Ambassador Pádraig Murphy, to Tbilisi, Yerevan and Baku from 23 to 27 January 2012:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/5/12)
- (c) *Upcoming visit by the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for the Transdniestrian settlement process, Ambassador Erwan Fouéré, to Chisinau and Tiraspol:* Chairperson (CIO.GAL/5/12)

Agenda item 3: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the report of the Secretary General (SEC.GAL/7/12 OSCE+)*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (b) *The OSCE Secretariat department for Addressing Transnational Threats (TNT)*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/7/12 OSCE+)
- (c) *Ceremony marking the closure of the OSCE Office in Zagreb*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/7/12 OSCE+)
- (d) *Annual meeting of the Chairmanship and the Secretariat with the heads of field operations and institutions, held on 12 and 13 January 2012 in Vienna*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/7/12 OSCE+)
- (e) *Deadline for the payment of the first bill for assessed contributions, 20 January 2012, and outstanding payments of assessed contributions to the 2011 Unified Budget*: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/7/12 OSCE+)

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Distribution of the report by the Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Ms. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, on her visit to the United Kingdom (SEC.GAL/200/11)*: United Kingdom
- (b) *Presidential elections in France, to be held on 22 April and 6 May 2012*: France (PC.DEL/25/12)
- (c) *Language conforming of documents adopted by the Ministerial Council in the course of 2011, to be carried out on 27 January 2012 (SEC.INF/2/12 Restr.)*: Lithuania
- (d) *Meeting of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation, to be held on 20 January 2012*: Lithuania
- (e) *Staff course at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, to be held from 6 February to 2 March 2012*: Chairperson
- (f) *2012 OSCE-Thailand Conference on Strengthening Security through Regional Co-operation: The OSCE Comprehensive Approach and Experiences of Asian Partners for Co-operation, to be held on 13 and 14 February 2012 in Chang Mai, Thailand*: Chairperson
- (g) *Meetings of the Human Dimension Committee, of the Security Committee and of the Economic and Environmental Committee*: Chairperson
- (h) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Malta to the OSCE, Ambassador C. Grima*: Chairperson, Malta

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 26 January 2012, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal