



784th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 784, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 914
FURTHER ENHANCING OSCE POLICE-RELATED ACTIVITIES**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the commitment at the Istanbul Summit to work to enhance the OSCE's role in civilian police-related activities as an integral part of the Organization's efforts in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

Strongly convinced that effective policing is essential to uphold the rule of law and to defend democratic institutions,

Reaffirming that greater co-operation between and among participating States in police-related activities can contribute to meeting new risks and challenges,

Recalling the Bucharest commitment to promote the capabilities and capacities of the Organization in designing, conducting and managing effective OSCE police training, monitoring and capacity building, democratic and community policing, including through the development of links to relevant international and regional organizations and other actors; and to exchange information among and between participating States regarding lessons learned and best policing practices in countering security challenges,

Recalling that, in accordance with the Maastricht strategy, the Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) was set up to improve the capacity of participating States to address threats posed by criminal activity and to assist them in upholding the rule of law, with the aim of enhancing key policing skills, including respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Recalling OSCE commitments regarding policing and other law enforcement related tasks, *inter alia*, in the fields of border security and management, combating terrorism and organized crime, particularly drugs trafficking and trafficking in human beings as well as combating sexual exploitation of children and hate crimes as well as tasks related to persons belonging to national minorities and gender issues,

Acknowledging the diverse and multifaceted OSCE work, experience and lessons learned in the policing field, in particular the work of the SPMU and the field operations within their respective mandates,

Convinced that the OSCE responses to challenges in the field of policing require efficient and effective relevant OSCE executive structures and a cohesive and co-ordinated approach by all of them,

Considering that the ability to deploy rapidly civilian and police expertise through Rapid Expert Assistance and Co-operation Teams (REACT) may contribute to conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation,

Emphasizing the importance of co-operation and co-ordination with relevant international and regional organizations and other actors in the field of policing,

Recognizing the need to identify key areas where OSCE police-related activities add the most value while also recognizing the need to consider how to better respond to new threats and challenges as well as the need to build future activities on lessons learned from past and current activities, with relevant international and regional organizations and other actors in a co-ordinated and complementary way which avoids duplication,

Convinced that the time has come to take stock of what has been done so far and to initiate a thorough dialogue on how to further enhance the police-related activities within the OSCE,

The Permanent Council,

1. Tasks the Secretary General, within existing resources and in consultation with relevant OSCE executive structures, to prepare a report on police-related activities of the OSCE executive structures up to the end of 2009. The report shall be based partly on the annual reports on police-related activities, reflecting existing mandates and OSCE commitments, and shall include an assessment of those activities and a forward looking perspective, offering long-term strategic recommendations. The Secretary General shall submit the report to the participating States by 1 April 2010, for further discussion;
2. Decides that the discussions on enhancing OSCE police-related activities will identify ways, on the basis of the OSCE's unique strengths, expertise and capabilities to contribute to an effective framework for co-operation with other international actors in order to address threats in a co-ordinated and complementary way which avoids duplication and maintains focus and to promote police and law enforcement co-operation among participating States and improved co-ordination among the OSCE executive structures;
3. Decides to devote the next Annual Police Experts Meeting to be held in May 2010 to the topic of further enhancing OSCE police-related activities, during which the report will be thoroughly discussed with a forward-looking perspective;
4. Decides that, as provided for in MC(10).DEC/3, OSCE police-related activities will be discussed at the 2010 Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC);
5. Determines that these discussions shall provide input to the programme budget planning process;

6. Decides that the participating States in consultation with OSCE executive structures will consider the adoption of a strategic plan of action by the end of 2011, providing a framework for future OSCE police-related activities;
7. Invites the Partners for Co-operation to participate in those activities to be carried out in the framework of this decision.