

Second day of the Twentieth Meeting
MC(20) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 6/13
PROTECTION OF ENERGY NETWORKS FROM NATURAL AND
MAN-MADE DISASTERS

The Ministerial Council,

Recalling and reaffirming the OSCE commitments related to energy contained in the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted at the Maastricht Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2003, Ministerial Council Decision No. 12/06 on energy security dialogue in the OSCE, Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/07 on protecting critical energy infrastructure from terrorist attack, Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/09 on strengthening dialogue and co-operation on energy security in the OSCE area and the 2010 Astana Commemorative Declaration,

Recalling the Madrid Declaration on Environment and Security (MC.DOC/4/07), which underlines the linkages between environmental risks, and natural and man-made disasters and security in the OSCE region,

Noting Permanent Council Decision No. 1088, on the theme, agenda and modalities for the Twenty-Second Economic and Environmental Forum “Responding to environmental challenges with a view to promoting co-operation and security in the OSCE area”, with a particular focus on preparedness, emergency response and recovery related to environmental challenges,

Taking positive note of the Good Practices Guide on Non-Nuclear Critical Energy Infrastructure Protection from Terrorist Attacks Focusing on Threats Emanating from Cyberspace,

Noting that, for the purpose of this Ministerial Decision only, the term “energy networks” does not refer to nuclear energy installations or gas and oil infrastructure,

Recognizing that energy networks can be vulnerable to risks posed by natural and man-made disasters,

Noting that protection in relation to energy networks refers to activities aimed at ensuring their functionality, continuity and integrity intended to deter, mitigate, and neutralize a threat, risk or vulnerability,

Recognizing the need for uninterrupted functioning of energy networks and taking into consideration the severe consequences of possible disruptions,

Noting with interest the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) Hyogo Framework for Action 2005–2015: Building the Resilience of Nations and Communities to Disasters, and any subsequent post-2015 framework on disaster risk reduction,

Taking into consideration the potential environmental challenges associated with damage to energy networks,

Underlining the importance of co-operation among the participating States on energy and environment, with a view to strengthening security and stability,

Recognizing the need to strengthen dialogue and co-operation on security and safety of energy networks,

Considering the importance of good public and corporate governance, market transparency and regional co-operation in the energy sector, while taking into account the interests of all concerned,

Convinced that more effective co-operation by all the OSCE participating States on an equitable, mutually beneficial and non-discriminatory basis to counteract threats and challenges caused by natural and man-made disasters can make a crucial contribution to security, stability and prosperity in the OSCE region,

1. Encourages the participating States to consider necessary measures, including the identification and assessment of risks, countermeasures and relevant procedures, at the national and local level, to increase protection of energy networks from natural and man-made disasters;
2. Encourages participating States to make best use of the OSCE as a platform for a broad dialogue, co-operation, exchange of information and sharing of best practices on strengthening the security and safety of the energy networks in the OSCE region;
3. Encourages the participating States to more effectively co-ordinate measures to increase the protection of energy networks, including at the early stages of planning;
4. Invites the participating States to facilitate co-operation and partnerships between public and private entities in order to enhance the protection of energy networks;
5. Encourages the participating States, in the context of attaining sustainable development, to implement integrated environmental and natural resource management approaches that incorporate disaster preparedness and risk reduction, in order to obviate adverse effects on energy networks;
6. Tasks the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to identify opportunities for co-operation with international organizations and regional organizations and agencies in the field of protection of energy networks against

natural and man-made disasters and to facilitate discussions on possible areas for co-operation;

7. Tasks the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to facilitate the exchange of good practices, technological innovations and the sharing of information on effective preparedness for, and responses to, disaster risks to energy networks without duplicating activities already carried out by other relevant international organizations;

8. Encourages the Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily implement the provisions of this decision.

MC.DEC/6/13
6 December 2013
Attachment

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Lithuania on behalf of the European Union:

“We would like to underline that, the inclusion of a preambular paragraph excluding energy installations as well as gas and oil infrastructure from the scope of application of this decision, considerably reduces its remit.

In this context, we believe that this decision should be regarded as the starting point for us to continue to work towards broadening the scope of our future discussions on these non-nuclear issues.

We would ask that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision adopted, and included in the journal of the Ministerial Council.”