



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

PC.DEC/784
15 February 2007

Original: ENGLISH

652nd Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 652, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 784
DATES OF THE HUMAN DIMENSION
IMPLEMENTATION MEETING**

The Permanent Council,

Decides that the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting will take place in Warsaw from 24 September to 5 October 2007.

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Attachment

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**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT
UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE
OSCE RULES OF PROCEDURE**

By the delegation of Belarus:

“In connection with the adoption of the decision on the dates of the 2007 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, our delegation would like to make the following statement:

In the spirit of compromise the delegation of Belarus has found it possible to join the consensus regarding the decision on the dates of the 2007 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

At the same time, we deem it necessary to point out that from year to year the practice of holding the meeting amplifies our conviction that there is an urgent need to bring order to the organization of this meeting. The Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, which lasts 10 working days, remains the longest of the events held on other dimensions of the OSCE’s work and requires appropriate adjustment.

A normal, civilized discussion needs to be ensured, working sessions should be better organized, the excessive number of keynote speakers and “side events” has to be reduced. The venue for the meeting should be selected with a view to maintaining a geographical balance, as well as the capacity to provide the conditions for participation of the representatives from all participating States. Resolution of these particular issues will allow us to allay the concerns of the participating States regarding the duration and the workload of the meeting. Cosmetic measures, which are limited to strictly technical matters, will not resolve all the accumulated problems. The report by the Panel of Eminent Persons provides a solid foundation for our further work.

So far the Permanent Council has not provided a serious discussion about further optimization of the work of the annual Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, including possible reducing of its duration, as provided for in Permanent Council Decision No. 476 of 23 May 2002. In this context, we believe that Ljubljana Ministerial Council Decision No. 17/05, to the extent that it concerns increasing the effectiveness of OSCE meetings, has not been implemented.

In the light of the opinion expressed by a number of delegations regarding the modalities for the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, including its duration and content, we trust that these issues will become the subject of careful consideration by the

Permanent Council Human Dimension Committee, including in the framework of the preparation of a decision on the agenda for the 2007 meeting.

In this connection, we welcome today's statement by the Chairmanship regarding its readiness to examine the entire range of issues concerning the modalities of the events within the OSCE human dimension and we expect concrete steps on the part of the Chairmanship with a view to organizing a meaningful discussion of these issues.

Mr. Chairperson,

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.”