

Romanian Chairmanship**375th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL/Corrected reissue***

1. Date: Thursday, 20 December 2001

Opened: 11 a.m.

Suspended: 12.25 p.m.

Resumed: 11.30 a.m. (Friday, 21 December 2001)

Suspended: 12 noon

Resumed: 5.15 p.m.

Closed: 6.40 p.m.

2. Chairman: Mr. L. Bota
Ms. V. Epure

3. Subjects discussed - Statements - Decisions:

Switzerland inquired regarding the Agenda.

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *Contributions to the OSCE voluntary fund to facilitate the withdrawal of Russian troops from and destruction of ammunition and military equipment in the territory of Moldova:* Norway, Chairman, Moldova, Russian Federation, Ukraine, Belgium-European Union

(b) *Financial needs of the Ombudsmen in Bosnia and Herzegovina:* Norway, Chairman

Agenda item 2: BRIEFING ON OSCE FIELD ACTIVITIES

None

* Incorporates amendments to agenda items 3, 5, 10 and 20(b) and to PC Decision No. 454.

Agenda item 3: BRIEFING ON BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON ENHANCING SECURITY AND STABILITY IN CENTRAL ASIA: STRENGTHENING COMPREHENSIVE EFFORTS TO COUNTER TERRORISM

Chairman (Annex 1), Austria, Turkey, United States of America (PC.DEL/1012/01), Canada, Russian Federation, Norway, Belgium-European Union, Secretary General, Kazakhstan

Agenda item 4: DISCUSSION ON FOLLOW-UP MEASURES TO THE THIRD SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING ON "HUMAN RIGHTS: ADVOCACY AND DEFENDERS"

Chairman, Belgium-European Union (also on behalf of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Turkey) (PC.DEL/1010/01), United States of America (PC.DEL/1011/01), Switzerland, Yugoslavia, Armenia

Agenda item 5: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE MISSION TO THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA

Chairman

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 451 (PC.DEC/451), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Belgium-European Union (also on behalf of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Czech Republic and Turkey) (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 6: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF THE OSCE OFFICE IN BAKU

Chairman

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 452 (PC.DEC/452), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Office in Baku.

Agenda item 7: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE ADVISORY AND MONITORING GROUP IN
BELARUS (none adopted)

Chairman, Belarus (PC.DEL/1013/01), Russian Federation, Ukraine,
Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, Armenia

Agenda item 8: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Chairman

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 453 (PC.DEC/453),
the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the extension of the mandate
of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Russian Federation, Chairman

Agenda item 9: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE ASSISTANCE GROUP TO CHECHNYA

Chairman

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 454
(PC.DEC/454/Corr.2), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the
extension of the mandate of the OSCE Assistance Group to Chechnya.

Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision)

Agenda item 10: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO CROATIA

Chairman

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 455 (PC.DEC/455),
the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the extension of the mandate
of the OSCE Mission to Croatia.

Belgium-European Union (also on behalf of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia,
Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia,
Czech Republic and Turkey) (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the
decision), Croatia (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision),
Norway (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision)

Agenda item 11: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE MISSION TO GEORGIA

Chairman

Agenda item 22: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Ministerial Conference in commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Convention on the protection of refugees held in Geneva: Switzerland*
- (b) *The development of the OSCE: Armenia, Chairman*
- (c) *Farewell to the Romanian Chairmanship: Chairman, Belgium-European Union (also on behalf of Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, the Czech Republic and Turkey), United States of America, Kazakhstan (also on behalf of Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan), Russian Federation*

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 17 January 2002, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/375/Corr.1
20 December 2001
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

375th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 375, Agenda item 3

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

In accordance with its Decision No. 440 of 11 October 2001, the Permanent Council takes note of the documents endorsed by the Bishkek International Conference. This statement shall be attached to the journal of the day.



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

PC.JOUR/375/Corr.1
21 December 2001
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

375th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 375, Agenda item 17

**STATEMENT
BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to make a general statement on the mandate decisions that we have just taken. Over the past several days, both in this chamber and in the corridors of this building, I have had more than ample occasion to hear my colleagues' views on the importance of collective and co-operative approaches to the challenges that confront us - as well as to the tasks on which we have agreed to work here at the OSCE.

I have welcomed those views and my delegation has never hesitated to raise issues of principle - in fact, we would do a disservice to each other and the OSCE if we did - and we expect nothing less from other delegations. When we have differences of approach, we need to discuss them, though not at the cost of losing momentum towards achieving our goals. This is both in the interests of this Organization and for the benefit of the people who depend upon its work in the field.

Mr. Chairman, for most people in my country and, I dare say, in many other countries represented around this table, it is not what we do or say in this room that defines this Organization. It is instead the work of OSCE personnel and OSCE missions in the field. They must have our full trust and confidence if they are to do the job we have charged them to do.

My government attaches great importance to the effective functioning of OSCE presences in Chechnya and Kazakhstan. In Central Asia, the OSCE can and should play a more active role. We look forward with anticipation to the increased focus that our incoming Chairman-in-Office, Portugal, has proposed on economic matters in Central Asia. The Centre in Almaty will be vitally important in this effort. The OSCE Assistant Group in Chechnya, too, does vital work, which must be continued under difficult circumstances. We believe that we can only benefit from further intensifying the co-operation between Russian authorities and the Assistance Group.

I would also like to restate clearly and for the record that the United States continues to view its 1995 mandate to be valid in all respects.

The OSCE is and must remain an organization founded on trust and confidence among the participating States. It is also an organization based upon an unshakeable commitment by each State to live by pledges that we have made, especially regarding the rights and freedoms of people throughout the OSCE space. Therefore, Mr. Chairman, recognizing the importance of maintaining this spirit of trust and confidence, acknowledging the vital importance of continuing our Missions' work in the field, and operating on the understanding that the proposed changes from open-ended to 12-month mandates will in no way affect the work of the missions in Chechnya and Kazakhstan, the United States has now decided that it is - *albeit*, reluctantly - prepared to agree to the draft decisions on the table.

Before I close, though, Mr. Chairman, I would like to address a point raised in the course of yesterday's Preparatory Committee by representatives of the Russian Federation, Belarus and Kazakhstan.

It was their expressed view that, in the absence of adoption of the draft decisions to alter the terms of the duration of the mandates from indefinite to 12 months, they would consider those mandates to have "technically expired," and expect that those missions would proceed to "technical closure."

The United States in no way agrees with such an interpretation. It is our firmly held view that in the absence of an agreed-upon change to length of mandates, mandates remain as they are. In this case, they are of indefinite duration; the issue of expiry does not arise.

We wish to make it clear, therefore, that with our decision today we are not setting a precedent in regard to the length of existing mandates. Instead, we are taking an active decision to alter the terms of the specific mandates in question.

Mr. Chairman, also in view of the importance my government attaches to the views that I have just expressed, I would be grateful if you would attach this statement to the Journal of today's meeting of the Permanent Council.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



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

PC.JOUR/375/Corr.1
21 December 2001
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

375th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 375, Agenda item 18

CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

Having observed the process in the informal Financial Committee, it is my perception that a decision on a budget for 2002 is close but not achievable at this stage, taking into account the deadlines provided for in the financial regulations.

I have, however, noted that there is agreement on an overall figure of EUR 177.5 million. Negotiations regarding the distribution of expenditure items by sub-programme, the post-table and the narrative part of the decision will be conducted expeditiously. This amount does not include any provision for the organization and observation of municipal elections in Kosovo in 2002. It is my conclusion that delegations have agreed to adopt, in due course, a supplementary budget for this purpose. An assessment mission will be organized and dispatched to Kosovo to make appropriate recommendations.

Pending the agreement to be reached on the 2002 budget in the amount of EUR 177.5 million, regulations 3.04 and 4.04 of the financial regulations will apply and the Secretary General is requested to apply maximum diligence and rigour during that time.

The informal Financial Committee will start working on the draft budget with the aim of adopting it before the end of the year.