



CIO.GAL/101/05  
29 June 2005

ENGLISH only

## **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CHAIRMAN IN OFFICE (22 June – 29 June)**

### **Panel Hands OSCE Chairman-in-Office Reform Proposal**

LJUBLJANA - The OSCE Panel of Eminent Persons handed to OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel on 27 June in Ljubljana a report containing proposals on OSCE reform with a view of making it more effective. The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Rupel stressed he was "looking forward particularly to reading the recommendations, as well as the analysis of the role of the OSCE today in the face of a changing world affecting Europe, North America and Eurasia, and new security challenges". The report will be presented to the OSCE Permanent Council on 30 June in Vienna. The proposals will together with other possible proposals then be discussed at a high-level consultation in September, and at the OSCE Ministerial Council in December in Ljubljana.

### **OSCE Chairman Saddened by Death of Nikolay Afanasievsky**

LJUBLJANA - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel expressed sadness on 23 June at the death of Ambassador Nikolay Afanasievsky, the Russian member of the OSCE Panel of Eminent Persons making recommendations on the organisation's reform. "I had hoped that Ambassador Afanasievsky would be able to further participate in the work of the OSCE despite his illness," Rupel said in a letter to Russian foreign minister Sergey Lavrov, offering his condolences to the Russian government and the ambassador's family.

### **OSCE Chairman Renews Appeal to Kyrgyzstan to Protect Uzbek Asylum-Seekers**

VIENNA – The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel, renewed his appeal to the government of Kyrgyzstan not to force refugees from Uzbekistan to return to their country against their will and said reports that further repatriations might be planned were deeply disturbing. Minister Rupel said the OSCE expected Kyrgyzstan to abide by its OSCE commitments and other international accords. He stressed that no further returns should take place without the proper procedures laid down in international agreements.

### **OSCE Bids Farewell to Jan Kubis**

VIENNA - The OSCE bade farewell to the outgoing Secretary General Jan Kubis at its session on 23 June in Vienna. "On behalf of the Slovenian Chairmanship, I wish to thank you for all the wisdom and advice you have generously shared with us," the Chairman of the Permanent Council, Ambassador Janez Lenarcic, said. He added the OSCE had been evolving continuously and was now undergoing a reform process in which the outgoing Secretary General had played a major part. The new OSCE Secretary General is French diplomat Marc Perrin de Brichambaut.

### **OSCE Plays Important Role in Fighting Terror, Chairman-in-Office Tells Conference**

VIENNA - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel pointed to the "important role" played by the Organisation in fighting terrorism at the OSCE's Annual Security Review Conference on 21 June in Vienna. "The OSCE - in cooperation with the UN - is playing an important role in assisting participating states to implement universal conventions and protocols relating to terrorism. This is an excellent example of the OSCE fulfilling its role as a regional arrangement of the UN," the Chairman-in-Office said. Moreover, he said that more needed to be done to address the threat posed by the use of chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear materials for terrorist purposes.

### **OSCE Chairman-in-Office Conferred Crans Montana Forum Award**

MONACO - Slovenian Foreign Minister and the OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel received the Prix de la Fondation award at the Crans Montana Forum on 23 June. The award is conferred for achievement in promoting peace, freedom, democracy and international cooperation. Accepting the

award, the Chairman-in-Office said he understood the honour as a responsibility to keep persisting with the great Europe project, which reaches back to the signing of the Helsinki Final Act 30 years ago, or even to the Marshall Plan 60 years ago.

### **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

WASHINGTON, 1 through 5 July - The 14th annual session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. The OSCE Chairman-in-Office Dimitrij Rupel is to address the session on 1 July. He is also to meet US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.