



Error! Switch argument not specified.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

---

COPENHAGEN

---

1997

Sixth Meeting of the Ministerial Council

18-19 December 1997

Chairman's Summary

Decisions of the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting

Reports to the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting

Copenhagen 1997



Error! Switch argument not specified.

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

---

COPENHAGEN

---

1997

Sixth Meeting of the Ministerial Council

18-19 December 1997

Chairman's Summary

Decisions of the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting

Reports to the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting

Copenhagen 1997

MC.DOC/1/97  
16 March 1998

Original: ENGLISH

# Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. Chairman's Summary.....	1
II. Decisions of the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting	
Decision on the appointment of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media (MC(6).DEC/1).....	11
Decision on the process of regional stabilization, as foreseen under Article V of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (MC(6).DEC/2).....	15
Decision on enhancing the operational capacities of the OSCE Secretariat (MC(6).DEC/3).....	16
Decision on modalities for implementation meetings on Human Dimension issues (MC(6).DEC/4).....	17
Decision on guidelines on an OSCE Document-Charter on European Security (MC(6).DEC/5).....	18
Decision on OSCE Summits (MC(6).DEC/6).....	24
Decision on the Chairman-in-Office in 1999 (MC(6).DEC/7).....	25
Decision on a scale for large OSCE missions and projects (MC(6).DEC/8).....	26
III. Reports to the Copenhagen Ministerial Council Meeting	
Status report by the Chairman of the Permanent Council on the Security Model discussion in 1997.....	31
Report of the Chairman-in-Office on the strengthening of the OSCE pursuant to the Lisbon Summit Declaration (MC.DEL/13/97).....	36
Report by the Co-Chairmen of the OSCE Minsk Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh to the Ministerial Council of the OSCE (MC.GAL/2/97).....	38
Report of the Chairman-in-Office to the Sixth OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting, pursuant to the Lisbon Summit Declaration: Moldova (MC.DEL/50/97).....	41
Letter from the Chairman of the Forum for Security Co-operation to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Chairman of the Sixth Ministerial Council of the OSCE.....	43
Letter from the Chairman of the Joint Consultative Group to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Denmark, Chairman of the Sixth Ministerial Council of the OSCE.....	45



## I. CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY



## CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

The OSCE participating States confirmed their solidarity in a quest for a secure and stable future.

In the evolving European security architecture, Ministers saw the OSCE as a key forum for their endeavours. Based on their work on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century, Ministers agreed to guidelines on a politically binding **OSCE Document-Charter on European Security**. This important document will guide the OSCE in its future role. Ministers outlined the major guidelines for work on such a Document-Charter with a view to its adoption at the level of Heads of State or Government of the OSCE participating States.

Through the OSCE, participating States in 1997 reached out and provided active support where needed for promoting democracy, the rule of law and the respect for human rights throughout the OSCE area. Building on its status as a regional arrangement of the United Nations, States confirmed the OSCE's role as a primary instrument for conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation in the OSCE area. Never before have the OSCE participating States engaged their organization so actively as their vehicle in so many issues relevant to their common security.

Ministers agreed on the need to further improve the OSCE in order to promote adherence to and implementation of common principles and commitments. They agreed to seek further co-operation between the OSCE and other organizations that share the same values.

As an expression of their will to enable the OSCE to remain able to act swiftly and flexibly, Ministers agreed on a **special mechanism to finance larger OSCE projects**. This decision and the establishment earlier this year of a Contingency Fund to allow for immediate action in crisis situations constitute main elements in the Chairman-in-Office's proposed financial reform. The special mechanism will remain in force until 31 December 2000.

In line with their commitment to strengthen the implementation of OSCE commitments in the field of the media, Ministers welcomed the agreement reached on a mandate for an **OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media**. They approved the proposal of the Chairman-in-Office to appoint Mr. Freimut Duve (Germany) to this post.

The Ministerial Council expressed appreciation for the leading role played by the OSCE in the considerable progress made in the implementation of the agreements on **Article II** and **Article IV** negotiated over the past year under Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Ministers welcomed the appointment of Ambassador Henry Jacolin (France) as Special Representative to help organize and conduct negotiations on the **Article V** process. This process will advance peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe.

Recognizing the importance of the OSCE **implementation meetings on Human Dimension issues** as a central element in promoting compliance with OSCE commitments, Ministers decided to task the Permanent Council with elaborating a new set of modalities for these meetings in order to increase their impact.



Ministers expressed their appreciation that reform of the OSCE Secretariat had been initiated. In particular they welcomed the adoption of a mandate for a **Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**, to be placed in the Secretariat and charged with the task of strengthening the ability of the Permanent Council and the OSCE institutions to address economic, social and environmental aspects of security.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Ministerial Council welcomed the OSCE's important role in a number of crises and post-conflict situations. They paid tribute to the dedicated efforts of the OSCE Heads of Mission and their staff, the High Commissioner on National Minorities, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and the OSCE Secretariat.

Ministers expressed their commitment to a democratic and multi-ethnic **Bosnia and Herzegovina** and their continued support for the General Framework Agreement. The extension of the mandate of the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina to 31 December 1998 is an expression of this commitment.

Appreciation was expressed for the work done by the OSCE Mission within the fields of human rights, democratization, arms control and confidence-building measures. Furthermore Ministers emphasized the impressive contribution made through the supervision of preparation and conduct of municipal elections in all of Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as National Assembly elections in Republika Srpska. Ministers underlined that implementing the election results, within the respective deadlines, is an integral part of the democratic election process. They also pointed out that with these elections, structures were now in place for further democratic development of Bosnia and Herzegovina. The responsibility for progress rested primarily with the parties themselves.

Ministers expressed their gratitude to Ms. Susanna Agnelli (Italy) for her role as Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office in charge of raising funds for the municipal elections.

Ministers emphasized the importance of close co-ordination with other international organizations and institutions, including in particular the High Representative, as well as with relevant non-governmental organizations.

Developments in **Albania** in the spring of 1997 confronted Europe with a new serious challenge to stability. Ministers acknowledged the quick response by the Chairman-in-Office to the emerging crisis through his appointment of Dr. Franz Vranitzky (Austria) as his Personal Representative. Ministers warmly commended Dr. Vranitzky for his important contribution.

Through the efforts of the Chairman-in-Office and his Personal Representative the way was paved for international involvement which succeeded in containing the crisis and opened up the way for parliamentary elections and a new start for democratic and economic reform. They expressed their gratitude to the OSCE Presence in Albania and to the ODIHR for their efforts in connection with the preparation and holding of these elections. Italy was thanked for the role played during the crisis in the context of the Multinational Protection Force.

Ministers expressed their determination to continue to provide international support for Albania, including through the OSCE as the flexible co-ordinating framework for this effort. They acknowledged the lessons learned in Albania, including those on the importance of the

close co-operation between the OSCE, the United Nations, the European Union and the Multinational Protection Force as well as other relevant organizations such as the Council of Europe. They believed that this co-operation and the co-ordinating role of the OSCE could provide a useful reference for dealing with similar crises.

Ministers welcomed the strengthening of the OSCE Mission to **Croatia**, recognized its general tasks in the field of human rights and emphasized its particular importance for the two-way return of refugees. They acknowledged the new challenges facing the OSCE in Eastern Slavonia when the mandate of the United Nations Transitional Administration expires in January 1998 and expressed their satisfaction that beyond this date co-operation would be maintained with the United Nations in the field of police monitoring.

Ministers expressed their disappointment that remedies for the democratic shortcomings in the **Federal Republic of Yugoslavia**, as highlighted in the Gonzalez Report of December 1996, were not being sufficiently pursued by the Government. They appealed to all political forces to engage in a constructive dialogue on these issues. They recalled the invitation to the OSCE to monitor elections in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and expressed their belief that there was further scope for co-operation with the OSCE. In this respect, offers made repeatedly by the Chairman-in-Office to the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to assist in furthering the democratic process were still in force. It was noted that no response had yet been received.

Profound concern was expressed over the rising tensions in **Kosovo**. The parties were urged to engage in a constructive dialogue in order to find political solutions. Ministers called on the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia to co-operate with the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Kosovo, Mr. Max van der Stoep. It was deplored that the Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia had not yet granted entry to the Personal Representative.

The importance of an early establishment of an OSCE mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia was emphasized.

Ministers believed that a true commitment to democracy and dialogue would benefit not only the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. It would also contribute positively towards the integration of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia into the international community and to the discussion of the future role that the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia can play within the OSCE.

Ministers acknowledged the significance of regional co-operation for promoting peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe. The potential of these processes should be further developed.

The Chairman-in-Office reported on developments concerning **Moldova** since the Lisbon Summit. The signing on 8 May 1997 of the Memorandum on the Bases for Normalization and of the Joint Statement marked an important step ahead towards a lasting settlement based on the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova. However, much remains to be done. Ministers hoped that ongoing contacts between the parties and the mediators would soon result in concrete progress. They confirmed the readiness of the OSCE to assist in implementing the documents agreed upon and in searching for a final settlement, in close co-operation with the Russian and the Ukrainian mediators.

It was noted with deep concern that a bilateral agreement between Russia and Moldova of 21 October 1994 to withdraw all Russian forces from Moldova and the expectation in the Lisbon Document of early, orderly and complete withdrawal of the Russian Troops are still far from fulfilled, in particular as regards munitions. Thus, by the present date, Russian military forces still remain. Approximately 40 per cent of the personnel has been withdrawn in 1997, but substantial amounts of Russian equipment and ammunition are still stored in the area, guarded by Russian forces. Ministers expected the withdrawal of Russian military forces from Moldova to be continued and completed in the near future in accordance with the commitments undertaken at the Lisbon Summit. Elaboration of a schedule could further the process of withdrawal, and increased transparency could strengthen confidence, leading to greater stability in the region. The OSCE will continue to follow the issue closely.

The Ministerial Council praised the valuable work done by the OSCE Assistance Group to **Chechnya (Russian Federation)**, notably during the elections in January 1997, and the subsequent efforts that have been concentrated on monitoring human rights and supporting humanitarian organizations. Regret and much concern was expressed that the security situation in Chechnya created major obstacles for the possibilities for the Assistance Group and the humanitarian organizations to carry out their work.

In **Georgia** some progress has been achieved since the Lisbon Summit on the conflict regarding Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia. Ministers agreed that the OSCE through its Mission, alongside the international community in general, should continue to encourage that political dialogue be maintained at all levels on the status question and other priority issues.

Concerning Abkhazia, Georgia it was noted with regret that no tangible progress on key issues, such as the status question and concerning refugees, could be registered, since the Lisbon Summit had assessed the situation and reaffirmed support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia. Ministers acknowledged the efforts made by the Russian Federation as facilitator to initiate a direct dialogue between the conflicting parties by assisting in the organization of a bilateral meeting between President Shevardnadze and Abkhaz leader Ardzinba. Ministers welcomed the fact that the Geneva process under the auspices of the United Nations was now effectively established, including the role of the 'Friends of the UN Secretary-General', and that the parties had repeated their pledge to seek a solution to the conflict based on the non-use of force.

Ministers confirmed the will of the OSCE to continue to support United Nations endeavours towards a lasting comprehensive settlement of the conflict in Abkhazia, Georgia, including a prompt and safe return of refugees and displaced persons to their homes under international supervision and post-conflict rehabilitation. Also, the OSCE stands ready to consider for its part a reinforcement of the UN/OSCE Sukhumi Human Rights Office.

Ministers stressed that the peaceful settlement of conflicts in Georgia requires additional measures of transparency on military armament and equipment in the conflict areas. In this context, Ministers take note of the efforts within the Joint Consultative Group in relation to military equipment unaccounted for and uncontrolled within the CFE Treaty.

Ministers encourage the parties involved, the international community, the OSCE through its Mission, as well as the 'Friends of the UN Secretary-General', to promote the intensification of negotiations between the parties on the political status of the Tskhinvali Region/South Ossetia and of Abkhazia, Georgia.

Ministers noted with satisfaction that in **Tajikistan** the UN-mediated inter-Tajik talks have been successfully concluded. Concern was, however, expressed over the present situation in Tajikistan, which is difficult, unstable and tense. They encouraged all political forces in the country to co-operate in order to ensure a peaceful democratic development to the benefit of the Tajik people. Ministers confirmed that the OSCE remains committed to assist in this process, in close co-operation with the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Ministerial Council has received the report of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Conference on progress towards resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The Chairman-in-Office welcomes the efforts made by the Co-Chairmen, and fully associates himself with their report on this issue. The Chairman-in-Office requests the Co-Chairmen to continue their work and urges all the Parties to resume negotiations without delay on the basis of the Co-Chairmen's proposal.

Ministers welcomed the interest of the Central Asian participating States in having an active involvement of the OSCE in the region. This is reflected in the tabling of specific proposals on co-operation and assistance to cope with, *inter alia*, social and ecological challenges and drug trafficking.

They also noted the initiatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Ukraine and Uzbekistan with a view to strengthening regional security.

It should be noted with satisfaction that the OSCE Advisory and Monitoring Group in **Belarus** is now ready to begin its work, according to the mandate approved in September this year. It is to be hoped that the activity of the Group will be of importance both for the democratic processes within Belarus and for Belarus' relations with the international community.

\* \* \* \* \*

During 1997 the ability of the OSCE to provide practical assistance to OSCE participating States in their democratization efforts and in complying with other OSCE commitments within the **Human Dimension** was significantly strengthened.

Ministers noted that the OSCE, in accordance with the Lisbon Summit Declaration of 1996 and through ODIHR and the OSCE Central Asian Liaison Office, has sought to strengthen the support to the **Central Asian participating States** in the areas of democratic institutions and the rule of law, as well as with a view to maintaining stability and preventing conflicts in the region.

It was noted that, in accordance with the Lisbon Summit Declaration, the OSCE, *inter alia*, through the ODIHR, gave further impetus to the Follow-up on the Programme of Action from the **Regional Conference to address the problems of refugees, displaced persons, other forms of involuntary displacement and returnees in the countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States and relevant neighbouring States.**

\* \* \* \* \*

Ministers acknowledged that the **Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights** was further adapted to create the basis for stronger OSCE contributions to the electoral processes.

Ministers heard a report by the President of the **Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE**. They noted with appreciation the contributions from the Parliamentary Assembly to the work of the OSCE and the specific contributions by the President of the Assembly during elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina. They welcomed the agreement with the ODIHR on procedures to enhance co-operation in election monitoring. They underlined the contributions made by the President of the Assembly and the Secretary General of the OSCE to the work of the OSCE Ministerial Troika.

Ministers noted with satisfaction that during 1997 co-operation between the OSCE and other organizations, in particular the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the European Union and NATO have been further strengthened. In the context on the work on the Security Model, contacts to subregional fora have also been developed.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Ministers noted with satisfaction efforts to further develop co-operation with the **partners for co-operation**, in particular the Mediterranean partners for co-operation. In this respect they welcomed the OSCE Mediterranean Seminar on “The Security Model for the twenty-first century: Implications for the Mediterranean basin” held in Cairo, and the regular meetings of the Contact Group established to strengthen dialogue and genuine co-operation with the Mediterranean partners. Endeavours to identify issues of common interest including the promotion of the role of the Contact Group have been undertaken and should be enhanced in the future. In order to facilitate this process, discussions on how to improve the quality of the interaction between the Mediterranean partners for co-operation and the work of our Organization have been engaged and are encouraged to be pursued.

\* \* \* \* \*

Ministers noted with appreciation the report on the activities of the **Forum for Security Co-operation** submitted pursuant to a decision of the Lisbon Summit. The report confirmed that arms control, including disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures, remains an integral part of OSCE’s comprehensive and co-operative concept of indivisible security. A successful follow-up conference on the Code of Conduct was held, and proposals were tabled to enhance transparency, predictability and co-operation in the politico-military field. Ministers welcomed the FSC decision to launch a review of the Vienna Document 1994 with the aim of completing this process during 1998. The recent opening for signature in Ottawa of the convention against landmines was noted with satisfaction, as was the FSC Decision to exchange annual information on the issue of landmines and other initiatives on this issue. In the light of the changing political and security environment the forthcoming seminar on defence policies and military doctrines will be a unique opportunity to promote security dialogue within the FSC.

The Ministerial Council also noted with appreciation the report on the work done by the **Joint Consultative Group** in the process of adaptation of the CFE Treaty. Ministers acknowledged the significance of the decision on “Certain Basic Elements for Treaty Adaptation” and the announcement by several nations of illustrative figures for their future national and territorial ceilings. Ministers reaffirmed the importance of the CFE Treaty as a

key element for security and stability in Europe. The Ministerial Council recognized the need for the adaptation of the Treaty - in parallel with the ongoing process of its full implementation - with the purpose of ensuring equal security for all States Parties, irrespective of their membership of a politico-military alliance and of strengthening their security relations and building trust and mutual reassurance.

The Ministerial Council reaffirmed the significance of the entry into force of the **Open Skies Treaty** and called upon States which have not yet ratified it to do so without delay. Ministers welcomed the experience gathered during bilateral and multilateral trial flights, demonstrating the great potential of this Treaty for creating transparency from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

\* \* \* \* \*

The Ministerial Council welcomed Poland as the incoming Chairman-in-Office, whose term will begin on 1 January 1998, and decided that the Chairmanship in 1999 will be held by Norway.



**II. DECISIONS OF THE  
COPENHAGEN MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING**





DECISION ON THE APPOINTMENT OF THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE  
ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA  
(MC(6).DEC/1)

The Ministerial Council,

In accordance with Permanent Council Decision No. 193<sup>(\*)</sup>, and taking into account the recommendation of the Chairman-in-Office,

- Decides to appoint Mr. Freimut Duve as OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media for a period of three years, with effect from 1 January 1998.

---

(\*) Attached as Annex.

PERMANENT COUNCIL DECISION No. 193  
5 November 1997

137th Plenary Meeting  
PC Journal No. 137, Agenda item 1

**MANDATE OF THE OSCE REPRESENTATIVE ON  
FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA**

1. The participating States reaffirm the principles and commitments they have adhered to in the field of free media. They recall in particular that freedom of expression is a fundamental and internationally recognized human right and a basic component of a democratic society and that free, independent and pluralistic media are essential to a free and open society and accountable systems of government. Bearing in mind the principles and commitments they have subscribed to within the OSCE, and fully committed to the implementation of paragraph 11 of the Lisbon Summit Declaration, the participating States decide to establish, under the aegis of the Permanent Council, an OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. The objective is to strengthen the implementation of relevant OSCE principles and commitments as well as to improve the effectiveness of concerted action by the participating States based on their common values. The participating States confirm that they will co-operate fully with the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media. He or she will assist the participating States, in a spirit of co-operation, in their continuing commitment to the furthering of free, independent and pluralistic media.

2. Based on OSCE principles and commitments, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will observe relevant media developments in all participating States and will, on this basis, and in close co-ordination with the Chairman-in-Office, advocate and promote full compliance with OSCE principles and commitments regarding freedom of expression and free media. In this respect he or she will assume an early-warning function. He or she will address serious problems caused by, *inter alia*, obstruction of media activities and unfavourable working conditions for journalists. He or she will closely co-operate with the participating States, the Permanent Council, the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), the High Commissioner on National Minorities and, where appropriate, other OSCE bodies, as well as with national and international media associations.

3. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will concentrate, as outlined in this paragraph, on rapid response to serious non-compliance with OSCE principles and commitments by participating States in respect of freedom of expression and free media. In the case of an allegation of serious non-compliance therewith, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will seek direct contacts, in an appropriate manner, with the participating State and with other parties concerned, assess the facts, assist the participating State, and contribute to the resolution of the issue. He or she will keep the Chairman-in-Office informed about his or her activities and report to the Permanent Council on their results, and on his or her observations and recommendations.

4. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media does not exercise a juridical function, nor can his or her involvement in any way prejudice national or international legal proceedings concerning alleged human rights violations. Equally, national or international

proceedings concerning alleged human rights violations will not necessarily preclude the performance of his or her tasks as outlined in this mandate.

5. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media may collect and receive information on the situation of the media from all bona fide sources. He or she will in particular draw on information and assessments provided by the ODIHR. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will support the ODIHR in assessing conditions for the functioning of free, independent and pluralistic media before, during and after elections.

6. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media may at all times collect and receive from participating States and other interested parties (e.g. from organizations or institutions, from media and their representatives, and from relevant NGOs) requests, suggestions and comments related to strengthening and further developing compliance with relevant OSCE principles and commitments, including alleged serious instances of intolerance by participating States which utilize media in violation of the principles referred to in the Budapest Document, Chapter VIII, paragraph 25, and in the Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting, Chapter X. He or she may forward requests, suggestions and comments to the Permanent Council, recommending further action where appropriate.

7. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will also routinely consult with the Chairman-in-Office and report on a regular basis to the Permanent Council. He or she may be invited to the Permanent Council to present reports, within this mandate, on specific matters related to freedom of expression and free, independent and pluralistic media. He or she will report annually to the Implementation Meeting on Human Dimension Issues or to the OSCE Review Meeting on the status of the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments in respect of freedom of expression and free media in OSCE participating States.

8. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will not communicate with and will not acknowledge communications from any person or organization which practises or publicly condones terrorism or violence.

9. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will be an eminent international personality with long-standing relevant experience from whom an impartial performance of the function would be expected. In the performance of his or her duty the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will be guided by his or her independent and objective assessment regarding the specific paragraphs composing this mandate.

10. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will consider serious cases arising in the context of this mandate and occurring in the participating State of which he or she is a national or resident if all the parties directly involved agree, including the participating State concerned. In the absence of such agreement, the matter will be referred to the Chairman-in-Office, who may appoint a Special Representative to address this particular case.

11. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will co-operate, on the basis of regular contacts, with relevant international organizations, including the United Nations and its specialized agencies and the Council of Europe, with a view to enhancing co-ordination and avoiding duplication.

12. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will be appointed in accordance with OSCE procedures by the Ministerial Council upon the recommendation of the Chairman-in-Office after consultation with the participating States. He or she will serve for a

period of three years which may be extended under the same procedure for one further term of three years.

13. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will be established and staffed in accordance with this mandate and with OSCE Staff Regulations. The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, and his or her Office, will be funded by the participating States through the OSCE budget according to OSCE financial regulations. Details will be worked out by the informal Financial Committee and approved by the Permanent Council.

14. The Office of the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media will be located in Vienna.

DECISION ON THE PROCESS OF REGIONAL STABILIZATION, AS  
FORESEEN UNDER ARTICLE V OF ANNEX 1-B OF THE GENERAL FRAMEWORK  
AGREEMENT FOR PEACE IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA  
(MC(6).DEC/2)

The Ministerial Council notes with satisfaction considerable progress in implementation of the Agreement on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in Bosnia and Herzegovina (negotiated under Article II of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina) and of the Agreement on Subregional Arms Control (negotiated under Article IV of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina) during the past year. It appreciates the leading role played by the OSCE in this context.

Reaffirming the Budapest decision on OSCE Action for Peace, Democracy and Stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to advance the goals of peace and stability in South-Eastern Europe, the Ministerial Council underlines the importance of starting the process of regional stabilization as foreseen under Article V of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina without delay to build on the achievements reached under Articles II and IV.

The Ministerial Council welcomes the appointment by the Chairman-in-Office of Ambassador Henry Jacolin as Special Representative to help organize and conduct negotiations under Article V.

The Ministerial Council invites the Special Representative to start consultations on a precise mandate and initiate a process of negotiations as soon as possible with a view to achieving initial results by summer 1998.

The Ministerial Council is convinced that a wide circle of countries present at the negotiation table would greatly enhance prospects for success. States not party to the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina should participate on a voluntary basis according to their specific security environment. The Ministerial Council affirms that Bosnia and Herzegovina must be represented by a single delegation appointed by the common institutions at all Article V related negotiations. A broad security dialogue would represent a significant element in establishing regional stability. Article V negotiations could also consider the development of CSBMs and other appropriate measures adapted to specific regional security challenges, and information exchange and verification activities could be agreed in line with regimes already in place. Such activities could be agreed between States which do not at present have the opportunity to exchange information with each other or inspect each other under legally binding arms control agreements. Guiding principles should include military significance, practicality and cost-effectiveness.

The Ministerial Council underlines that steps in this context should not prejudice the integrity of existing arms control and CSBM agreements. In particular, Article V should not alter obligations under the CFE Treaty or under the Article II or Article IV Agreements.

DECISION ON ENHANCING THE OPERATIONAL CAPACITIES OF THE  
OSCE SECRETARIAT  
(MC(6).DEC/3)

The Ministerial Council,

Recognizing the need to further enhance the efficiency of the OSCE as a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation as referred to in paragraph 5 of the Lisbon Summit Declaration,

Commending the Secretary General for a substantial first step in the process of restructuring the Secretariat in response to the growing operational tasks of the Organization,

Taking note of the report by the Chairman-in-Office,

- Decides to mandate the Permanent Council with tasking an informal open-ended group of experts, working in close co-operation with the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary General, to study possible ways of further enhancing the Secretariat's operational capacities;
- Invites the Permanent Council to take stock, on a regular basis, of the work done;
- Recommends the adoption by the Permanent Council of an appropriate set of decisions, on the basis of proposals made by the informal open-ended group, no later than September 1998.

DECISION ON MODALITIES FOR IMPLEMENTATION MEETINGS ON  
HUMAN DIMENSION ISSUES  
(MC(6).DEC/4)

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming OSCE commitments in the Human Dimension,

Recognizing the need to strengthen and increase the efficiency of the OSCE implementation meetings on Human Dimension issues, and

Taking into account the report from the Director of the ODIHR regarding reform of modalities,

- Tasks the Permanent Council with elaborating, in close co-operation with the ODIHR, a new set of modalities for the OSCE implementation meetings on Human Dimension issues. The Permanent Council shall take a decision not later than the 1998 OSCE summer recess which shall become final only after review and confirmation by Ministers through a silence procedure.



DECISION ON GUIDELINES ON AN OSCE DOCUMENT-CHARTER ON  
EUROPEAN SECURITY  
(MC(6).DEC/5)

1. The Ministerial Council is convinced that, at the eve of the new century, the current political and security environment offers a unique historical opportunity for building a new Europe - democratic, peaceful and free of divisions. New and complex risks and challenges to security require a co-operative and comprehensive approach. Security across the entire OSCE area can be strengthened only through genuine partnership based on the sovereign equality and solidarity of States, and with full respect for the principles of the OSCE and the interests of all OSCE States irrespective of whether they belong to security structures or arrangements.
2. The Council recalls that under paragraph 22 of the Helsinki Summit Declaration of 1992 the OSCE is a forum providing direction and giving impulse to the shaping of the new Europe and that under paragraph 8 of the Budapest Summit Declaration the OSCE is a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention and crisis management in the region. The 1996 Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century affirmed the OSCE's central role in ensuring security and stability. The purpose of the work on a Security Model is to contribute to the creation of a common and indivisible security space and benefit the security of all participating States through enhancing and strengthening the OSCE in its own work and thereby underpinning its key role as the only pan-European security organization, in European peace and stability.
3. Recalling the 1996 Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century and taking note of the report by the Chairman-in-Office on the work done on the Security Model during 1997, the Ministerial Council reaffirms the solemn commitment of all participating States to the Helsinki Final Act as the bedrock of the OSCE, to the Charter of Paris as well as to other OSCE documents which together form a common foundation of security for all participating States, and decides to develop a comprehensive and substantive OSCE Document-Charter on European Security.
4. Such a Document-Charter should be politically binding and take a further step with regard to standards and practices of OSCE participating States. It should serve the needs of our peoples in the new century by addressing risks and challenges to security, thus contributing to a common security space within the OSCE area. It should enable participating States to do so through a strengthened OSCE undertaking mutually supportive co-operation with other competent organizations on an equal basis. It should complement and advance the processes of integration across the OSCE area. It should reinforce our efforts to assist in promoting adherence to common values and implementation of commitments.

A Document-Charter should continue to uphold consensus as the basis for OSCE decision-making. The OSCE's flexibility and ability to respond quickly to a changing political environment should remain at the heart of the OSCE's co-operative and inclusive approach to common and indivisible security.

A Document-Charter should reaffirm OSCE principles and recognize their continued validity and applicability in ensuring peace and stability in the dynamic security environment in the OSCE area. It should reaffirm the inherent right of each and every participating State to be free to choose or change its security arrangements, including treaties of alliance, as they

evolve. Each participating State will respect the rights of all others in this regard. They will not strengthen their security at the expense of the security of other States. Within the OSCE, no State, organization or grouping can have any superior responsibility for maintaining peace and stability in the OSCE region, or regard any part of the OSCE region as its sphere of influence.

5. As a means of turning their vision into reality, Ministers agree that participating States, through a Document-Charter, will, *inter alia*, undertake the following:

(a) Reaffirm the OSCE as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter and strengthen it as a primary organization for the peaceful settlement of disputes within its region by further enhancing its effectiveness for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. They will safeguard the innovative character of the OSCE in fulfilling its role and increase the OSCE's capabilities in a number of essential areas by refining existing tools and exploring new ones.

(b) Recognizing that within the OSCE participating States are accountable to their citizens for the respect of OSCE norms and principles, and that commitments assumed by States within the OSCE are matters of immediate and legitimate concern to all participating States, they will strengthen the commitment to act in solidarity and partnership to ensure the implementation of, and respect for, OSCE principles and commitments and for decisions adopted by the OSCE. To assist States experiencing problems with implementation of commitments, they will draw on and explore ways of refining existing co-operative instruments and mechanisms and developing new ones. To this end States will reaffirm their commitment to co-operate within the OSCE and with its institutions and representatives and their readiness to use OSCE instruments, tools and mechanisms.

They will continue to protect the common security of all participating States, and to that end, and with a view to maintaining genuine partnership, they will explore ways of increasing the effectiveness of the OSCE in addressing cases of clear, gross and continuing violation of OSCE principles and decisions. In this connection, they will also explore ways of improving co-operation between States and institutions and joint co-operative measures to assist implementation of OSCE principles and decisions.

(c) They will explore further ways jointly to consider actions that may have to be undertaken, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, possibly in co-operation with other relevant organizations of which they are members, in the event that any State threatens to use or uses force against the sovereignty, territorial integrity or political independence of another State. They will also explore ways to help any participating State in case of internal breakdown of law and order.

(d) They shall ensure that the presence of foreign troops on the territory of a participating State is in conformity with international law, the freely expressed consent of the host State, or a relevant decision of the United Nations Security Council.

(e) Recognizing the importance of co-operation between the OSCE and other relevant organizations when confronted with risks and challenges and building on the Common Concept set out in the Annex to this Decision, they will further strengthen non-hierarchical co-operation between the OSCE and other organizations within a Platform for Co-operative Security to be elaborated as an essential element of the Document-Charter. They will do so, *inter alia*, by exploring additional modalities for how the OSCE and other organizations might better complement each other's capabilities so as to devise optimal co-operative

solutions to specific problems. To this end they will build on the modalities outlined in the agreed Annex to this Decision.

Based on the provisions set out in the Common Concept, they will offer the OSCE as a potential forum for interaction of regional and subregional groupings in the OSCE area, with the aim of facilitating exchanges of information and of developing a pragmatic approach to addressing challenges, including those in the field of post-conflict rehabilitation.

In the light of the role the OSCE has come to play across the full spectrum of early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, and in the light of practical experience gained by other organizations within the field of peacekeeping, they will examine rigorously the OSCE's appropriate role in connection with peacekeeping operations, bearing in mind relevant OSCE documents.

(f) They will examine an appropriate role for the OSCE, including how the OSCE can facilitate international efforts, in addressing new risks and challenges to security.

(g) They will augment the work within the human dimension, including building and strengthening of democratic institutions, and strengthen their commitment to counter such threats to overall security as violations of human rights and fundamental freedoms and manifestations of intolerance, aggressive nationalism, racism, chauvinism, xenophobia and anti-semitism, *inter alia*, in co-operation with other institutions active in this field.

They will explore how the OSCE can contribute to the improvement of implementation of human rights and fundamental freedoms - including equal rights for women and men. They will also seek ways in which the OSCE, in addressing issues related to persons belonging to national minorities, can strengthen its support of inter-ethnic dialogue and promote the implementation of commitments relating to the rights of persons belonging to national minorities. The aim will be to refine the OSCE's tools and increase participating States' acceptance of their use.

(h) Drawing on the interlinkages between security and prosperity based on economic freedom and social justice and environmental protection, they will ensure that the economic dimension receives appropriate attention as an element of the early warning and conflict prevention activities of the OSCE and provides further political impetus to the work carried out by specialized economic and financial and other relevant institutions, *inter alia*, with a view to promoting the integration of economies in transition into the world economy and to ensuring within the OSCE area the rule of law and the development of a transparent and predictable legal system in the economic sphere.

(i) In stressing the importance of politico-military issues, they will confirm the importance of implementation of existing arms control and confidence- and security-building measures as well as their adaptation to the new security environment. They will consider possible new measures to enhance transparency, predictability and co-operation and ensure that the Forum for Security Co-operation, as a forum for dialogue and negotiation, remains effective in this regard. They will underline the continued significance of the CFE Treaty as a cornerstone of European security, and the importance of the Vienna Document and the Code of Conduct on politico-military aspects of security.

(j) Recognizing the indivisibility of security, they affirm that strengthened security and co-operation in adjacent areas, in particular the Mediterranean, is an important factor for stability in the OSCE area. They will consider closer co-operation with all partners for

co-operation in order to promote the norms and values shared by the OSCE participating States. They will also encourage partners to draw on OSCE expertise.

6. The Ministerial Council decides:

- That work on a Document-Charter will be complemented by continuing target-oriented OSCE action providing practical means of enhancing the effectiveness of the OSCE throughout its fields of activity. This will include improving and refining OSCE tools and mechanisms, exploring new innovative possibilities, such as tools of assistance to promote democratic institutions, and improving the efficiency of OSCE field activities;
- Pending the elaboration of a Platform for Co-operative Security as part of a Document-Charter, to task the Chairman-in-Office, in co-operation with the Secretary General, on the basis of the Annex to this Decision, to work actively to increase the OSCE's co-operation with other international institutions and organizations.

7. The Ministerial Council further decides:

- That the development of a Document-Charter will be undertaken by the Security Model Committee, under the auspices of the Permanent Council, which may, as appropriate, set up subordinate bodies to deal with specific elements of the Document-Charter;
- To task the Chairman-in-Office, as a matter of priority, with presenting a schedule, organizational modalities and procedures for this process. Progress of the work may, as appropriate, be reviewed at special meetings of the Permanent Council;
- That a Document-Charter will be adopted at the level of Heads of State or Government of the OSCE participating States.

Common Concept for the Development of  
Co-operation between Mutually-Reinforcing Institutions

The goal of a Platform for Co-operative Security is to strengthen the mutually-reinforcing nature of the relationship between those organizations and institutions concerned with the promotion of comprehensive security within the OSCE area. The Common Concept below provides the basis for the development of a Platform which will be part of a Document-Charter.

I. Common Concept

Ministers recognize that security in the OSCE area requires co-operation and co-ordination among participating States and relevant organizations and institutions of which they are also members.

The OSCE participating States wish to strengthen the non-hierarchical mutually-reinforcing nature of the relationship between those organizations and institutions, with a view to fostering a foundation for common, comprehensive and indivisible security in the OSCE area.

The OSCE will work co-operatively with those organizations and institutions whose members individually and collectively, in a manner consistent with the modalities appropriate to each organization or institution, now and in the future:

- Adhere to OSCE principles and commitments as set out in the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, the Helsinki Document 1992, the Budapest Document 1994, the OSCE Code of Conduct on politico-military aspects of security and the Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century;
- Subscribe to the principles of transparency and predictability in their actions in the spirit of the Vienna Document;
- Implement fully the arms control obligations, including disarmament and CSBMs, to which they have committed themselves;
- Proceed on the basis that those organizations and institutions of which they are members will adhere to transparency about their evolution;
- Ensure that their membership in those organizations and institutions is based on openness and free will;
- Actively support the OSCE's concept of common, comprehensive and indivisible security and a common security space free of dividing lines;
- Play a full and appropriate part in the development of the relationships between mutually-reinforcing security-related institutions in the OSCE area;

- Are ready in principle to deploy the institutional resources of international organizations and institutions of which they are members in support of the OSCE's work, subject to the necessary policy decisions as cases arise. In this regard, participating States note the particular relevance of co-operation in the areas of conflict prevention and crisis management.

Together these principles and commitments form a Common Concept for the development of co-operation between mutually-reinforcing organizations and institutions within the Platform.

Within the relevant organizations and institutions of which they are members, participating States will work to ensure the organizations' and institutions' adherence to the Platform for Co-operative Security. Adherence, on the basis of decisions taken by each member State within relevant organizations and institutions, will take place in a manner consistent with the modalities appropriate to each organization or institution. Contacts and co-operation of the OSCE with other organizations and institutions will be transparent to participating States and will take place in a manner consistent with the modalities appropriate to the OSCE and those organizations and institutions.

II. A first set of practical steps towards the development of co-operation between the OSCE and those organizations and institutions which subscribe to the Common Concept will be:

1. Regular contacts, including meetings, through a continuous framework for dialogue, increased transparency and practical co-operation, including the identification of liaison officers or points of contact; cross-representation at appropriate meetings; and other contact intended to increase understanding of each organization's conflict prevention tools.
2. Co-operation in responding to specific crises:
  - The OSCE, through its Chairman-in-Office and supported by the Secretary General, and the relevant organizations and institutions are encouraged to keep each other informed of what actions they are undertaking or plan to undertake to deal with a particular situation;
  - To this end, participating States encourage the Chairman-in-Office, supported by the Secretary General, to work with other organizations and institutions to foster co-ordinated approaches that avoid duplication and ensure efficient use of available resources. As appropriate, the OSCE can offer to serve as a flexible framework for co-operation of the various mutually-reinforcing efforts. The Chairman-in-Office will consult with participating States on the process.

## DECISION ON OSCE SUMMITS

(MC(6).DEC/6)

Reaffirming the Charter of Paris and the Helsinki Document 1992, the Ministerial Council decides that the date of the next Summit will be determined at a reinforced meeting of the Permanent Council no later than the end of March 1998, following a review of progress on the development of a Document-Charter on European Security. The Ministerial Council further recommends that the frequency of subsequent OSCE Summits be decided at the next Summit. The continuing invitation by Turkey to host the next Summit was noted.

DECISION ON THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE IN 1999  
(MC(6).DEC/7)

The Ministerial Council decides that Norway will exercise the function of Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE in 1999.



DECISION ON A SCALE FOR LARGE OSCE MISSIONS AND PROJECTS  
(MC(6).DEC/8)

The Ministerial Council,

Having considered, following the address of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office to the Permanent Council on 17 April 1997, measures to bring OSCE financing mechanisms in line with political decisions and with the increased volume and scope of the Organization's tasks,

Reaffirming the commitment of all participating States to fulfil their financial obligations, including the settlement of arrears and prompt future payments,

1. Approves the attached "Scale for large OSCE missions and projects" governing contributions of all participating States to the financing of OSCE missions/projects having approved annual budgets of ATS 185 million or more. This scale will be applied as of 1 January 1998;
  2. Notes that the establishment of all such missions/projects and their budgets will be subject to consensus approval by the Permanent Council in each case;
  3. Notes that a system of voluntary funding will also be maintained in order to accept financial contributions to such missions/projects from participating States, OSCE partners for co-operation as well as other sources. To take account of this possibility, participating States will be billed, initially, only up to two thirds of the budget, until the Secretary General is satisfied that he has ascertained the level of voluntary contributions. The residual financing, if any, of the remaining one third will be met by assessed contributions in accordance with the attached scale. Voluntary financing may either be allocated to special projects carried out by large missions or be brought in to reduce the total amount of required mission/project financing;
  4. Decides that special meetings of the informal Financial Committee shall be held whenever requested by the Permanent Council, and with the participation of experts from capitals, in order to:
    - examine the financial requirements of large missions/projects;
    - prepare appropriate recommendations for submission to the Permanent Council;
    - examine status and financial reports regarding missions and projects;
    - examine financial statements following completion of a mission/project.
- \* \* \* \* \*
5. This scale for large OSCE missions and projects will be applied until 31 December 2000.

The Ministerial Council takes note of the Helsinki Document 1992 (Chapter XII, paragraph 4), regarding an appropriate time for reviewing the scale and criteria for financing OSCE activities and decides that in the light of the subsequent change in the OSCE and its structure, such a review should appropriately be undertaken, under the auspices of the Permanent Council, and reported to the next Summit. This review should also cover the scale for large OSCE missions and projects.

The Ministerial Council recommends that this report be taken into account when establishing the scale for large OSCE missions and projects to be applied after 31 December 2000.

Scale for large OSCE missions and projects

Country	Per cent	Country	Per cent
United States of America	12.40	Cyprus	0.14
France	10.34	Slovenia	0.14
Germany	10.34	Belarus	0.07
Italy	10.34	Romania	0.07
United Kingdom	10.34	Bulgaria	0.06
Russian Federation	5.50	Kazakstan	0.06
Canada	5.45	Uzbekistan	0.06
Spain	4.20	Albania	0.02
Belgium	4.07	Andorra	0.02
Netherlands	4.07	Armenia	0.02
Sweden	4.07	Azerbaijan	0.02
Switzerland	2.65	Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.02
Austria	2.36	Estonia	0.02
Denmark	2.36	Georgia	0.02
Finland	2.36	Holy See	0.02
Norway	2.36	Kyrgyzstan	0.02
Poland	1.05	Latvia	0.02
Turkey	0.75	Liechtenstein	0.02
Ireland	0.63	Lithuania	0.02
Luxembourg	0.63	Malta	0.02
Greece	0.53	Moldova	0.02
Hungary	0.53	Monaco	0.02
Czech Republic	0.50	San Marino	0.02
Portugal	0.41	Tajikistan	0.02
Slovak Republic	0.25	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.02
Iceland	0.21	Turkmenistan	0.02
Ukraine	0.18		
Croatia	0.14		
		Total	100.00

**III. REPORTS TO THE COPENHAGEN  
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING**



## STATUS REPORT BY THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL ON THE SECURITY MODEL DISCUSSION IN 1997<sup>(\*)</sup>

### SUMMARY

The work of the Danish chairmanship on the Security model in 1997 has been guided by the mandate given in the Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century. All the tasks set out in the Declaration seem to have been addressed directly or indirectly but have, however, not been reflected fully in results achieved. The reason for this can be ascribed less to disagreement on substance than to diverging views on the sequence of discussion of different issues.

The following three issues have received particular attention in the course of 1997: Joint Co-operative Action in the event of non-compliance which, in the second half of 1997, was channelled into work on Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments in conjunction with the concept of Solidarity; a Platform for Co-operative Security; and considerations on a Charter on European Security.

Work on a Platform for Co-operative Security brought negotiations considerably forward and there is emerging consensus on the major parts of the document.

The work on Solidarity, Joint Co-operative Action and Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments clearly reflected the pertinence of these issues, but also illustrated that views are very divergent and that additional clarification is called for.

The considerations on a Charter on European Security matured to a high degree and there seems to be a sound basis for beginning work on a new substantive OSCE document, which could be a Charter on European Security. All requirements for the beginning of this process seem to have been met.

### CHRONOLOGY

Due to a lack of consensus in the first part of 1997 on whether to engage in concrete work on any of the above-mentioned issues in their own right, the Chairmanship embarked on a "building block" approach, which as a first step concentrated on conceptual clarification of the areas mentioned above, as well as on other issues listed in the Lisbon Declaration. A number of these issues were addressed, *inter alia*, in the framework of two seminars held in the spring of 1997 on "Specific Risks and Challenges" and "Regional Security and Co-operation" respectively.

On the basis of the work done in the first half of 1997, the Chairmanship's report of 17 July 1997 drew the conclusion that time was ripe for moving to drafting on the most mature parts of the agenda. Simultaneously a draft of an outline of a Charter for European Security was presented. Despite some continued reluctance to engage in drafting, work was intensified in the second half of 1997 on the basis of new drafts presented on the three main issues. Extensive discussions on the basis of the new drafts lead to a considerable

---

(\*) This report is a slightly revised version of MC.SMC/1/97, 17 December 1997 (restricted distribution). The annexes which were part of the original version and all references to them have been removed.

convergence and clarification of views, in particular with regard to the Platform for Co-operative Security, but also, although to a lesser extent, on the issue of Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments and on consideration of a Charter for European Security.

This new phase of work culminated with the holding of an informal meeting on 31 October with other international organizations and a reinforced meeting of the Permanent Council on 5 November 1997. The non-paper presented by the Chairman-in-Office on 5 November 1997 underlined that time seemed ripe to consider a Charter on European Security. The Permanent Council meeting showed, however, that a number of delegations were not convinced that the time had come to develop a Charter on European Security. Nevertheless, there was a widespread sentiment that the OSCE - at this point in its own evolution and in the light of developments in the European Security Architecture - should seek to elaborate a comprehensive document, which could be a Charter on European Security, setting out as its over-all objective to proceed towards the common objective of a European security space based on values of freedom and democracy.

Following the Permanent Council meeting on 5 November, the Chairmanship presented a non-paper containing "Possible elements for the Copenhagen Ministerial Meeting", intended as a possible basis for a decision of the Copenhagen Ministerial Council, including two annexes on "Assistance in Implementation of Commitments" and a "Platform for Co-operative Security". Although not all delegations were ready to accept this paper as the basis for further work, all delegations were ready to engage in discussing the substance of the papers without prejudice as to their status. Following intense discussions, the Chairmanship presented a draft decision on Guidelines on an OSCE Document-Charter on European Security for the Copenhagen Ministerial Council.

## MAIN ISSUES

### Platform for Co-operative Security

The Platform for Co-operative Security has been the subject of intense discussions for more than a year and only a very few problems seem to have prevented participating States from defining in a Platform for Co-operative Security modalities for closer co-operation between the OSCE and other security organizations based on adherence to a set of defined principles. The idea that the OSCE is particularly well suited as a forum to enhance co-operation and complementarity among European and transatlantic organizations and institutions seems to enjoy very broad support. There is also widespread support for seeing the OSCE Platform for Co-operative Security as a basis on which co-operative security can be further developed in order to address the new risks and challenges which have emerged in the OSCE area. The fundamental purpose of the Platform, which does not seem to be disputed, is to enhance, through mutual dialogue, co-operation and, where appropriate, joint action with other security organizations, the international community's effectiveness in addressing future crises and to ensure that the comparative advantages of each organization can be combined and fully exploited.

Some delegations remain concerned about some elements in the Platform, including the idea to have a study on peacekeeping. Some find that the Platform could directly or indirectly imply hierarchies between international organizations. However, the reluctance to adopt a Platform for Co-operative Security at an early stage seems related to external factors not directly related to the proposed text.

At the informal meeting on 31 October with the participation of other international organizations, considerable interest was expressed with regard to following the development of the Platform. The need was recognized to ensure complementarity between the principles and procedures of each organization. A broad degree of agreement was registered that work on the Platform should be continued, both in the OSCE and in other organizations. The meeting recognized that whatever type of co-operation framework should be agreed, co-operation should be non-hierarchical and on a voluntary basis and questions should be resolved in a practical way. Among operational aspects mentioned were the following: establishment of contact points, inter-institutional meetings on a reciprocal basis, information exchange (including on actions taken in specific situations), pooling of resources, planning of responses to crises (including peacekeeping under OSCE responsibility), working meetings, contacts among Secretariats, joint actions in crisis regions in a concerted way (including, *inter alia*, use of democratization teams).

The seminar on “Co-operation Among International Organizations and Institutions: Experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina” held in Portorož, Slovenia, on 29-30 September 1997 also provided information on experience gained in co-operation on the ground.

#### Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments

On the basis of a number of national contributions, the Chairman presented the annexed paper on Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments, containing various ideas.

Discussions have shown support for the view that the nucleus of this concept is the fact that compliance with OSCE norms and commitments constitutes the basis for the creation of a common and indivisible security space and thus contributes to the security of all OSCE participating States. The basic premises for Assistance in Compliance seem to be a commitment to enter into a dialogue in cases of difficulties in implementing OSCE commitments and a willingness to provide assistance to any participating State facing such difficulties.

Discussions have especially focused on tools facilitating dialogue on compliance and on developing consultation mechanisms. However, a number of delegations have also drawn the attention to the desirability of developing measures for cases where efforts to enhance implementation are unsuccessful. They have in this connection pointed to the fact that in cases of clear gross and uncorrected violations of commitments to the OSCE as well as the continued lack of co-operation by a participating State, as a last resort, participating States need to have the possibility to decide on a range of steps without the consent of the State concerned. At the present stage there are, however, very divergent views as to the right balance between remedial and coercive action. In the framework of discussions on Assistance in the Implementation of Compliance, the issue of assisting participating States subjected to aggression has also been discussed - without resulting in any clear conclusions, however.

Overall, there seems to be a need for further clarification of the concept of Assistance in the Implementation of Commitments.

#### Consideration on a Charter on European Security



Discussions on this issue have to a very large extent clarified the objectives of a possible Charter and have identified the guidelines for such a document.

Due to a lack of agreement as to the need for a Charter on European Security and divergent views as to whether a “Charter on European Security” would be the right name for a possible comprehensive OSCE document, work has concentrated on conceptual clarification. Following the presentation of a draft Charter, it was possible to a greater extent to focus the discussion and thereby obtain a clearer understanding of what a possible Charter should and should not be. A number of building blocks that would fit into a Charter were identified.

Based on the work done in 1997, there seems to be a solid basis for undertaking the actual development of a Charter on European Security in 1998.

## OTHER ISSUES

In accordance with the agenda set out in the Lisbon Declaration on a Common and Comprehensive Security Model for Europe for the twenty-first century, participating States have additionally during 1997 made the following progress with regard to the Lisbon agenda:

The operational parts of paragraph 10 in the Lisbon Declaration encourage bilateral or regional initiatives, including the exploration of a menu of CSBMs, draw the attention to the commitments relating to national minorities, co-operation with the Mediterranean area and commitments to strengthen co-operation with other security organizations.

These tasks have been addressed, in particular, through the two Seminars on “Specific Risks and Challenges” and “Regional Security and Co-operation” respectively, the informal meeting with other international organizations on the Platform for Co-operative Security and the Mediterranean Seminar in Cairo on the Security Model with the participation of the Mediterranean partners for co-operation. With regard to national minorities, a seminar on minority issues on the topic of “integrating diversity” had for calendar reasons to be postponed. There seems to be broad support for holding a seminar of this kind in 1998. The strengthening of co-operation with other security organizations is closely related to work on the Platform.

With regard to paragraph 11, (in addition to the work on Assistance in Implementation of Commitments, a Platform for Co-operative Security and considerations on a Charter) the following work has been done:

The observance of OSCE principles and implementation of commitments mentioned in the first tiret is an ongoing process which is an integral part of the day-to-day business in the context of the Permanent Council. This commitment is also closely related to the commitment to enhance instruments of joint co-operative action in the event of non-compliance.

The task of refining existing tools and developing new ones has been directly touched upon in the context of the discussion of joint co-operative action. Indirectly, it has also been addressed in the course of dealing with current crises. An example has been the use of Personal Representatives of the Chairman-in-Office. With regard to new tools, the mechanism of “a coalition of the willing” and the concept of “democracy teams” have been introduced.

With regard to improving our ability to meet specific risks and challenges and recommendations for new commitments or arrangements reinforcing security and stability, the two seminars held this spring and early summer contributed fruitfully.

The Seminar on “Specific Risks and Challenges” pointed out that the OSCE could contribute to strengthening the determination of governments and competent authorities to make use of the tools available to address these risks and challenges by enhancement of awareness of these problems at a high political level. The Seminar showed that these questions merit consideration within the framework of the Security Model.

The Seminar on “Regional Security and Co-operation” made it clear that closer links between the OSCE and the subregional groups could facilitate the overall objective of a Common and Comprehensive Security Model. In this respect, proposals were made towards developing a regional dimension of the OSCE. The Chairman’s summary of the regional seminar, in conjunction with the numerous recommendations contained in the reports of the rapporteurs, could serve as a basis for a document on such a regional dimension. Such a document could have merits in its own right. It could also be one of the building blocks of a Charter on European Security.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE  
ON THE STRENGTHENING OF THE OSCE PURSUANT TO  
THE LISBON SUMMIT DECLARATION  
(MC.DEL/13/97)

In light of the role of the OSCE in fostering security and stability in all their dimensions, the Lisbon Summit decided to continue efforts to enhance the OSCE's efficiency as a primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation capabilities.

Against this background various initiatives have been taken by the Chairman-in-Office and the OSCE institutions.

In order to strengthen the financial capacity of the OSCE to react immediately to impending crises and to prepare the OSCE for future demands, the Chairman-in-Office has proposed a financial reform including a Contingency Fund and a financing mechanism for large OSCE Missions and projects. The Contingency Fund, which was adopted in July 1997, covers the costs of establishing an OSCE presence in the period between the adoption of the mandate and the decision on the funding. The purpose of the financing mechanism for large OSCE Missions and projects is to make the OSCE less dependent on voluntary contributions. The scale of contributions outlined for each State in the financing mechanism is based upon capacity to pay. At the same time, the proposed mechanism maintains the crucial principle of solidarity, in that all participating States contribute to these projects.

With a view to strengthening the OSCE's capabilities in preventive diplomacy and in crises management, the Chairman-in-Office has increased the use of Personal Representatives to act on his behalf in dealing with specific crisis situations involving the OSCE. To strengthen the impact of the Ministerial Troika as a political driving force and to enhance public awareness of the work of the OSCE, joint statements have been issued from the OSCE Troika Ministerials.

The Permanent Council has been strengthened through the use of a reinforced Permanent Council on the Common and Comprehensive Security Model in November 1997.

In response to the growing operational tasks of the organization, the Secretary General initiated a process of restructuring of the Secretariat. To streamline it, two positions of Director will be merged to create a position of Director of Resources. Further to this the following steps have been taken: the establishment of a CIO Support Unit for Mission Monitoring, the reinforcement of the Mission Support Section, the reinforcement of the Forum for Security Co-operation Unit, the reinforcement of the Department for General Affairs responsible for public information and relations with other international organizations, and support of the Spokesperson. Furthermore, the establishment of the position of Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities after the adoption of the mandate by the Permanent Council will strengthen the Secretariat's capacities within the Economic Dimension.

Contacts between the Secretary General and the Secretariat with international organizations were reinforced, in order to encourage and support co-ordination in the field.

Whilst maintaining focus on the monitoring of implementation of OSCE Human Dimension commitments the ODIHR has given added emphasis to its activities regarding

free and fair elections and the promotion of civil society and democratic institutions. The management structure has been adapted accordingly. This has improved co-operation with the Chairman-in-Office, the Permanent Council and other OSCE institutions, as well as with organizations and individuals outside the OSCE framework. Furthermore, more administrative and technical support has been provided for external advisers, and the technical electoral staff has been expanded.

In fulfilling its mandate for election monitoring operations, the ODIHR has drawn on observers from other international organizations, such as the Council of Europe and the European Parliament.

In the area of Human Dimension/Democracy Building the exchange of information between the ODIHR and the various OSCE Missions etc., participating States and other OSCE institutions has increased, as has joint implementation of projects. Contacts with international organizations have been expanded at all levels in order to combine resources and develop mutually reinforcing programmes. Thus, a formal co-operation framework has been established with the Council of Europe and is being discussed with the Commission of the EU. To improve OSCE's performance in election monitoring the ODIHR signed an agreement with the Parliamentary Assembly on closer co-operation, including on co-ordination of statements following elections.

With a view to strengthening co-operation between the OSCE institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly the Chairman-in-Office continued the practice of inviting the President of the Parliamentary Assembly to participate in the Ministerial Troika Meetings.

REPORT BY THE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE OSCE MINSK CONFERENCE  
ON NAGORNO-KARABAKH TO THE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE OSCE  
(MC.GAL/2/97)

1. In 1997 the Co-Chairmen of the OSCE Minsk Conference were France, the Russian Federation and the United States of America. France and the United States of America were named by the Chairman-in-Office in consultation with the participating States after Finland announced the termination at the end of 1996 of its obligations as a Co-Chairman of the OSCE Minsk Conference.
2. In accordance with the decision of the Budapest Summit to intensify OSCE action in relation to the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (6 December 1994), the Co-Chairmanship in the course of 1997 made further efforts to promote continued observance by the parties to the conflict of the existing ceasefire and the conclusion by them of an agreement on the cessation of the armed conflict, the implementation of which would eliminate the major consequences of the conflict for all parties and permit the convening of the Minsk Conference. The Co-Chairmen relied in this regard upon the statement by the Budapest Summit that the conclusion of this agreement would make it possible to deploy multinational OSCE peacekeeping forces as an essential element for the implementation of the agreement. The Co-Chairmen also took into consideration the fact that at the OSCE Summit in Lisbon, on 3 December 1996, the Chairman-in-Office had made a statement regretting the lack of progress on resolving the conflict and reiterating principles for its settlement that all but one OSCE participating State supported; and that the Delegation of Armenia had made an interpretative statement in this regard.
3. The negotiating round held in April 1997 made clear that the negotiations had reached a stalemate characterized by polemic and sterile dialectic. During the month of May 1997 the Co-Chairmen pooled their ideas and developed a unified approach to address this. It embraces a comprehensive approach in two agendas. The first comprises immediate steps to end the armed conflict including, *inter alia*, troop withdrawals, deployment of a multinational peacekeeping force, return of displaced persons, establishment of measures to guarantee the security of all populations, removal of blockades and embargoes and normalization of communications throughout the region. The second agenda is to determine the status of Nagorno-Karabakh that will be approved by the Minsk Conference. The agendas were kept separate to allow the parties to negotiate and implement each at its own pace, but with a clear understanding that at the end of the day all outstanding issues will have to be resolved. The Co-Chairmen presented these new proposals on 31 May and 1 June 1997 in Yerevan, Stepanakert and Baku. In their presentation they focused on the larger context of the settlement, particularly the benefits to all the peoples of the region to be gained by the restoration of peace.
4. The presidents of France, Russia and the United States, during their meeting in Denver on 23 June 1997, made a joint declaration in which they called upon the leaders of the parties to the conflict to take a positive approach towards the proposal presented to them by the three Co-Chairmen and pointed out that this proposal takes into consideration the legitimate interests and concerns of all parties and represents an appropriate basis for

achieving a mutually acceptable agreement. The problem of resolving the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict has also been discussed on many occasions by presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers of the three countries supplying the Co-Chairmen, at bilateral meetings among themselves and with the presidents, prime ministers and foreign ministers of Armenia and Azerbaijan.

5. In 1997 the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Conference and Minsk Group made a number of trips to the region, where they met with leaders of the parties to the conflict and urged them to start without delay constructive work on the draft Agreement on the Cessation of the Armed Conflict. In October 1997 the Armenian and Azerbaijani parties informed the Co-Chairmen of their agreement to take as a basis for negotiations the latest proposal of the Co-Chairmen which provides for a phased settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict under which the parties, in the Agreement on the Cessation of the Armed Conflict, assume an obligation to continue to negotiate in good faith to achieve without delay a comprehensive settlement of the conflict resolving the status of Nagorno-Karabakh and also the complex Lachin, Shusha and Shaumyan issues.

6. On 10 October 1997, in the framework of the Council of Europe Summit, a meeting took place between the presidents of Armenia and Azerbaijan after which a statement was issued emphasizing that Azerbaijan and Armenia are committed as before to the peaceful settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict by political means, in the first instance through negotiations. Azerbaijan and Armenia consider that the work of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Conference in the framework of the Minsk Group is directed at the creation of a basis which, given a constructive approach by all the parties to the conflict, will permit the achievement of real progress towards the settlement of the conflict. Azerbaijan and Armenia consider that the latest proposals of the Co-Chairmen constitute a promising basis for the beginning of negotiations in the framework of the Minsk Group.

7. With the acceptance of the Co-Chairmen's proposal by Azerbaijan and Armenia as a basis for negotiations, the Co-Chairmen concentrated, during November and December 1997, on obtaining the same response in Nagorno-Karabakh. However, Nagorno-Karabakh continued to take a negative position with regard to holding negotiations on the basis of the Co-Chairmen's proposals.

8. The High-Level Planning Group, working under the guidance of the Chairman-in-Office, rendered valuable assistance to the Co-Chairmanship. The Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office and his field assistants were also helpful to the Co-Chairmanship.

9. The Co-Chairmen and Minsk Group members, in co-operation with the International Committee of the Red Cross, have exerted persistent efforts to ensure the release of prisoners of war and other persons detained in connection with the conflict. In April, as a result of such joint efforts, a total of 26 prisoners of war and persons detained forcibly were released and returned to their homelands. The Co-Chairmanship has also maintained direct contact with, and welcomes the efforts of, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

10. The Co-Chairmen regret that an Agreement on the Cessation of the Armed Conflict has not yet been achieved. The Co-Chairmanship is conscious of the need to persevere in its efforts to bring about a settlement. However, the parties should in turn recognize that only a speedy transformation of the existing ceasefire into a lasting peace will allow the people of

the region to live normal, productive lives under democratic institutions, with a rising standard of living and promising future.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE  
TO THE SIXTH OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING,  
PURSUANT TO THE LISBON SUMMIT DECLARATION: MOLDOVA  
(MC.DEL/50/97)

The Lisbon Summit issued a clear call for all sides to the dispute concerning the eastern part of Moldova to increase their efforts to achieve a solution. The signing on 8 May 1997 in Moscow of the “Memorandum on the Bases for Normalization of the Relations between the Republic of Moldova and Trans-Dniestria” and the Joint Statement issued by the Presidents of the Guarantor States and signed by the Chairman-in-Office were an important step ahead towards a lasting settlement of the conflict based on respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova. The Memorandum was signed by the Parties to the dispute, the Presidents of the Guarantor States, and the Chairman-in-Office.

The Memorandum contains a number of important commitments, including a reaffirmation of the Parties’ earlier agreement not to resort to force or the threat of force, and to resolve their differences exclusively by peaceful means, through negotiations and consultations with the assistance and mediation of Russia, Ukraine and the OSCE. The Joint Statement declares that the Memorandum must not be interpreted or acted upon in such a way as to call in question the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Moldova.

The Memorandum gave an impulse to the process of elaborating a document defining a special status for the Trans-Dniestrian region of Moldova, including the division and delegation of competencies. Experts from the two sides, assisted by the mediators, met in Moscow in early October, and further developed the document to an initialled text. However, hopes to see the text signed in Chisinau during the Summit of the CIS States on 23 October turned out to be vain, as, in the end, it was not accepted by the leadership of the Trans-Dniestrian region. Nevertheless, the text remains under discussion and the negotiating process has resumed.

Contacts involving the Parties and the mediators are still ongoing. The present negotiations are centred around the implementation of the documents signed in May. It is the hope of the Chairman-in-Office that these negotiations will soon result in concrete steps forward.

Thus, some progress towards an overall political settlement in Moldova has been achieved since the Lisbon Summit, but much still remains to be done. In some ways the dispute is even in danger of becoming institutionalized. As was noted at Lisbon, “Real political will is needed now to overcome the remaining difficulties in order to achieve a solution based on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.” If anything, that statement is even more true today than it was in 1996.

Through its Mission to Moldova, the OSCE is actively involved in searching for a final settlement. The OSCE stands ready to assist the Parties in implementing the documents signed in May 1997 and the final settlement agreement.

The Lisbon Document also expressed the expectation of an “early, orderly and complete withdrawal of Russian troops” from Moldovan soil. Furthermore, the 21 October 1994 agreement between Russia and Moldova stated that all Russian forces were



to be withdrawn within three years. But on 21 October 1997 Russian troops still remained on the territory of the Trans-Dniestrian region of Moldova.

Still, some progress can be noted. According to information received, some 40 per cent of the personnel of the Operational Group of Russian Forces (the former Fourteenth Army) based in the Trans-Dniestrian region has been withdrawn since the Lisbon Summit, with some 3,000 personnel remaining.

The problem of Russian equipment and ammunition remains essentially unsolved. In this field only little progress can be recorded. Thus, substantial amounts of Russian equipment and ammunition are still stored in the area, guarded by Russian forces. Only in September 1997, for the first time since the spring of 1996, did a train carrying military engineering equipment depart for Russia. This event has to be welcomed. The Chairman-in-Office expects the withdrawal to be continued and completed in the near future in accordance with the commitments undertaken at the Lisbon Summit.

In an effort to focus attention on these problems and in the hope of establishing more clarity about their magnitude, the Delegation of Switzerland, on behalf of the Chairman-in-Office, has twice convened expert meetings on the question of military transparency in Moldova. These meetings served their purpose well. They established more transparency and elicited proposals from individual OSCE countries, in particular France, to assist in reducing the stocks of arms and ammunition. So far, these proposals have not been taken up, but Russia has expressed readiness to consider the matter at a later stage. In this context, increased transparency could strengthen confidence, leading to greater stability in the region. It is therefore the hope of the Chairman-in-Office that further steps to increase transparency will be undertaken.

In summary, a great deal remains to be done to ensure the early, orderly and complete withdrawal of the Russian troops as agreed in the Lisbon Document, in particular as regards Russian equipment and munition. Elaboration of a concrete plan or schedule for the withdrawal could further the process. The OSCE should continue to follow the issue closely.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION  
TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE SIXTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE OSCE

Your Excellency,

In my capacity as Chairman of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), I have the honour to inform you of the Forum's activities during 1997 pursuant to the Lisbon Document 1996 (Decisions III and IV).

- During the year, the Forum has given growing consideration to the implementation of the existing arms control and confidence- and security-building commitments undertaken within the framework of the OSCE and in particular to the implementation of the Code of Conduct on politico-military aspects of security. The successful follow-up Conference on the Code of Conduct held in September confirmed the acquis of norms and values contained in the Code and yielded a rich variety of proposals on further follow-up activities which led the participating States to adopt Decision No. 16/97 on the holding of a two-day follow-up conference on the Code of Conduct in 1999.
- Regarding the Lisbon decision to expand agreed measures and develop new ones, the Forum launched a review of the Vienna Document 1994, with the aim of completing the review during 1998. The process will be based on the existing Document and will entail consideration of new measures to enhance transparency, predictability and co-operation in the light of the agreed criteria. This is a major FSC contribution to the co-operative approach to security and stability in Europe.
- With regard to regional arms control in the OSCE area, the Forum was kept constantly informed of the substantial achievements in the implementation of Articles II and IV of Annex 1-B of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Forum was also the body where information was exchanged regularly on the progress made in separate arms control negotiations and processes, such as the Joint Consultative Group.
- With a view to promoting more transparency in matters relating to armaments, the Forum also adopted Decision No. 13/97 on an annual exchange of information about participating States' transfers of weapon and equipment systems during the previous calendar year in the categories and formats set out in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms Transfers.
- In compliance with the Lisbon Document 1996 and in order to further the efforts undertaken by the international community in relation to anti-personnel landmines, participating States agreed to provide one another and the Conflict Prevention Centre with annual written replies to an approved questionnaire on this issue and to keep the problem under consideration.
- As a follow-up to the Lisbon Decisions, the Forum considered ways of achieving greater cohesion between the FSC and the Permanent Council. Although some practical steps have been taken in this direction and views exchanged on this topic, the participating States consider it necessary to pursue this discussion next year.

Internal working methods aimed at enhancing the efficiency of the Forum were also extensively discussed.

- In accordance with its mandate, the Forum continued to develop its security dialogue. In this respect, mention should be made of the decision taken by the Forum to organize a “Seminar on Defence Policies and Military Doctrines”, from 26 to 28 January 1998. Chiefs of Staff and other senior defence officials will address the seminar, with the aim of promoting discussions on the evolution of military doctrines and their relationship with changes in the armed forces of the OSCE participating States.

Your Excellency, the Forum would be grateful if you would be kind enough to include in your statement to the Ministerial Council of the OSCE, to be held in Copenhagen, a reference to the Forum’s work, so that the Ministers of Foreign Affairs will be able to gain a picture of the progress achieved.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CONSULTATIVE GROUP  
TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF DENMARK,  
CHAIRMAN OF THE SIXTH MINISTERIAL COUNCIL OF THE OSCE

Excellency,

In my capacity as Chairman of the Joint Consultative Group (JCG), I have the honour to inform you about the results of the process initiated after the adoption of the Scope and Parameters document by the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) during the OSCE Lisbon Summit and about the operation and the implementation of the Treaty throughout 1997.

At the OSCE Lisbon Summit in December 1996 our Heads of State and Government gave responsibility to the JCG for the next phase of the process of adaptation of the CFE Treaty. The States Parties also decided at Lisbon to report to the Copenhagen Ministerial Council on progress made.

During 1997, the JCG continued to try and resolve outstanding CFE Treaty implementation issues identified in Section II and Annex C of the Final Document of the First CFE Treaty Review Conference.

Since February 1997, all CFE States Parties have engaged in negotiations on Treaty adaptation within the JCG. There have been a number of important areas where progress has been achieved:

- On 18 February, the JCG established a Negotiation Group to “consider and elaborate measures for the improvement of the operation of the Treaty through such new elements, adaptations, revisions or adjustments to existing elements as it agrees to be necessary”. The Group considered a number of national proposals made by delegations during the first session of the JCG;
- On 15 May, Annex A of the Final Document of the First Conference to Review the Operation of the CFE Treaty (Document Agreed Among the States Parties to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe of November 19, 1990) entered into force;
- On 26 June (and at subsequent JCG meetings), several States Parties announced illustrative figures for their future national ceilings for Treaty-Limited Equipment (TLE);
- On 23 July, Decision No. 8/97 Concerning Certain Basic Elements for Treaty Adaptation was adopted by the JCG. The Decision set out the basic structure of an adapted CFE Treaty, including a system of national and territorial ceilings to replace the existing system of limitations, based on two groups of States Parties;
- On 23 July, the JCG agreed on the general modalities for the conduct of on-site visits to be decided in order to assess and account TLE unaccounted for and uncontrolled within the Treaty by Decision No. 9/97;
- On 30 September, the JCG set up two working subgroups under the Negotiation Group, one on limitations, the other on information, verification and Treaty protocols. The first of these began by considering how national and territorial ceilings will function. The

second has been looking at provisions to implement an adapted Treaty, such as information exchange and on-site inspections;

- On 2 December and at subsequent JCG meetings, several States Parties announced illustrative figures for their future territorial ceilings for ground-based TLE expressing hope that these indicative figures find reciprocity from Treaty partners and agreement is reached on a satisfactory adaptation of the Treaty.

The negotiations in the JCG working groups have been conducted in a spirit of good co-operation. The States Parties intend to proceed on this basis in order to conclude the adaptation process in accordance with the timetable established at Lisbon.

Excellency, you might deem it useful to reflect these developments in the Chairman's Summary.