



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

PC.DEC/1364
19 December 2019

Original: ENGLISH

1253rd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1253, Agenda item 9

**DECISION No. 1364
EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF
THE OSCE PROGRAMME OFFICE IN NUR-SULTAN**

The Permanent Council,

Decides to extend the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan until 31 December 2020.

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Attachment

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

By the delegation of Kazakhstan:

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

In connection with the adoption of the decision for the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan until 31 December 2020, the delegation of Kazakhstan would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

We emphasize the importance of the work within the mandate of the Programme Office and its close co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan.

We underline the need for proper evaluation of the work of the OSCE Programme Office in Nur-Sultan in order to streamline priority areas of co-operation in all three dimensions. We reiterate our interest in the work of the OSCE with the focus on regional and subregional projects.

In this connection, as a matter of principle, we would like to bring up Article 41 of the Charter for European Security, which states: ‘The host country of an OSCE field operation should, when appropriate, be assisted in building its own capacity and expertise within the area of responsibility. This would facilitate an efficient transfer of the tasks of the operation to the host country, and consequently the closure of the field operation.’

In the meantime, as is well known, for the past three years, Kazakhstan has been consistently promoting the establishment of the Thematic Centre on Sustainable Connectivity, meant to serve the entire OSCE area. We are glad to have found considerable interest in, and support for, this proposal from a good number of the participating States.

This new entity, representing a new step in the development of the OSCE as an organization, will focus on projects in the areas of good governance, green economy, disaster prevention, energy security, trade promotion and transportation by facilitating exchanges of best practices, analytical and research work.

The results of the feasibility study on the establishment of OSCE thematic hubs or centres for analysis and research in the second dimension allow establishing the Thematic Centre by adopting a relevant Permanent Council decision.

To ensure the sustainability of the Thematic Centre's work, it should be funded from the OSCE Unified Budget, starting from the 2020 budget cycle. Kazakhstan is ready to provide in-kind contribution by offering office space as well as to second personnel.

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

I thank you.”