

Netherlands Chairmanship

468th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 25 September 2003

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 12.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. J. de Visser

3. Subjects discussed - Statements - Decisions:

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Media situation in Central Asia:* Representative on Freedom of the Media (FOM.GAL/10/03), Italy-European Union (PC.DEL/1119/03), Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/1123/03), Chairperson, Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1112/03 Restr.), Kyrgyzstan
- (b) *Amendments to the Ukrainian legislation on protection of State secrets:* Ukraine, Representative on Freedom of the Media
- (c) *Situation of minorities in Latvia and Estonia:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1122/03), Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1121/03), Canada
- (d) *Situation in Turkmenistan:* United States of America, Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1118/03), Canada, Norway, Turkmenistan, Chairperson
- (e) *Statement on Abkhazia, Georgia, adopted at the Yalta Summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States:* Georgia (PC.DEL/1116/03), Azerbaijan

(also on behalf of Moldova and Ukraine) (PC.DEL/1125/03), Turkey, Russian Federation, Italy-European Union (PC.DEL/1120/03), Chairperson

- (f) *Bilateral agreement between Romania and Hungary on the implementation of the Act on Hungarians Living in Neighbouring Countries*: Romania (PC.DEL/1114/03), Hungary, Chairperson

Agenda item 2: ADDRESS BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO AND BY THE HEAD OF THE DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO, H.E. AMBASSADOR GEOFFREY BARRETT

Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia and Montenegro (PC.FR/25/03 Restr.), Head of the Delegation of the European Commission in Serbia and Montenegro (PC.DEL/1110/03), Italy-European Union (with the acceding countries Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia and Slovenia, and the associated countries Bulgaria, Romania and Turkey, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1117/03), United States of America (PC.DEL/1130/03), Azerbaijan (also on behalf of Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine) (PC.DEL/1124/03), Switzerland, Russian Federation, Norway, Canada, Serbia and Montenegro, Chairperson

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE MID-YEAR REVIEW OF THE YEAR 2003 OSCE UNIFIED BUDGET

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 560 (PC.DEC/560), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the Mid-Year Review of the Year 2003 OSCE Unified Budget.

Turkey (Annex 1), Albania (Annex 2), Turkmenistan (Annex 3)

Agenda item 4: DECISION ON THE 2003 SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET FOR THE PUBLISHING OF THE OSCE HANDBOOK OF BEST PRACTICES ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 561 (PC.DEC/561), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on the 2003 Supplementary Budget for the publishing of the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

*Announcement of the distribution of the written report on the activities of the
Chairman-in-Office (CIO.GAL/91/03 Restr.): Chairperson*

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of a distribution of a report of the Secretary General:
Secretary General*
- (b) *Regional Meeting of Heads of Missions, held in Bishkek on 15 and
16 September 2003: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/170/03 Restr.)*
- (c) *First OSCE Meeting of Police Experts, held in Vienna on 18 and
19 September 2003: Secretary General*
- (d) *OSCE-IFANS Workshop, held in Seoul on 22 and 23 September 2003:
Secretary General*
- (e) *Mediterranean Seminar, to be held in Aqaba, Jordan, on 20 and
21 October 2003: Secretary General*
- (f) *Activities of the Senior Adviser on Gender Issues: Secretary General*
- (g) *OSCE-European Union Ministerial Troika meeting, to be held in Brussels on
29 September 2003: Secretary General*

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Seminar on Enhancing Border Security in South-East Europe, to be held in
Budapest on 13 and 14 October 2003: Hungary (PC.DEL/1109/03)*
- (b) *OSCE Presence in Albania: Albania, Chairperson*
- (c) *Discussion of current issues at the Permanent Council: United States
of America*
- (d) *Training of Azerbaijani border guards at the Police Academy in Poland:
Azerbaijan*

4. Next meeting:

Friday, 26 September 2003, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/468
25 September 2003
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

468th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 468, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY

On various occasions, my Delegation has underlined that whenever possible seconded positions at the OSCE Secretariat and institutions should be converted to contracted positions.

In the same vein, we believe that there should not be an increase in the current number of seconded positions at the Secretariat and institutions, to enable as many participating States as possible to be represented.

With this understanding, our strong preference goes for creation of contracted positions, if and when there is a need.

Nevertheless, since we did not want to delay the decision on the mid-year review of the 2003 OSCE Unified Budget, and although we continue to hold this position vis-à-vis establishment of new seconded positions at the Secretariat and institutions, we reluctantly joined the consensus on the Decision on the Mid-Year Review of the year 2003 OSCE Unified Budget.

We would appreciate it if this statement is attached to the Journal of the Day.



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

PC.JOUR/468
25 September 2003
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

468th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 468, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ALBANIA

My delegation joined the consensus on the Decision on the Mid-Year Review of the Year 2003 OSCE Unified Budget that was just adopted in full confidence. I wish to make a brief observation on the issue, believing that what the distinguished Ambassador of Turkey just said deserves our full support. We too are of the opinion that there should be a careful balance between secondment and contracted posts in the OSCE Secretariat and institutions. I therefore wish to express my delegation's profound preference for contracted staff rather than seconded ones, in order to ensure higher standards of professionalism, dedication and integrity of the staff, while bearing in mind also the geographical distribution of posts, which currently does not seem to be properly reflected in the OSCE Secretariat and institutions.

I would like to request that this statement be attached to the Journal of the day.



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

PC.JOUR/468
25 September 2003
Annex 3

Original: RUSSIAN

468th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 468, Agenda item 3

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF TURKMENISTAN**

Mr. Chairman,

Our delegation fully subscribes to the statement by Turkey and requests that our statement be attached to the Journal of the day.