



Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE

PC.DEL/682/08
25 July 2008

ENGLISH only

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine on the Decision on the Financial Report and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2007
and the Report of the External Auditor**

As for delivery by Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko
to the Permanent Council, 24 July 2008

Mr. Chairman,

In connection with today's adoption of the Permanent Council Decision *On the Financial Report and Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2007 and the Report of the External Auditor*, the delegation of Ukraine would like to state the following.

Ukraine highly appreciates the work done by the OSCE External Auditor (Office of the Norwegian Auditor General). We support its main conclusions regarding the state of the OSCE financial and management system. We also value highly the recommendations put forward by the External Auditor regarding the steps which should be taken in order to improve the functioning of the system.

At the same time, the Delegation of Ukraine would like to express its strong interest in a more thorough examination of the irregularities that took place in the activities of the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, in particular as reflected in the 2007 Annual report of the Office of Internal Oversight. A deeper professional analysis of the reported facts could make a major contribution to obviating their consequences and preventing such irregularities in any of the OSCE executive structures in the future.

Having said this, we would like to encourage further deepening of cooperation between the OSCE External Auditor and the OSCE Office of Internal Oversight. As a host country, we also call for full transparency between the auditors, the audited field operations and the host governments.

To conclude, I once again thank the OSCE External Auditor (Office of the Norwegian Auditor General) for its highly professional and valuable work in the interests of the entire Organization.

I ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.