



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

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564th Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 687
ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
AND THE INDICATIVE TIMETABLE OF THE
HIGH-LEVEL OSCE CONSULTATIONS**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 16/04 of 7 December 2004,

Taking into account the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the OSCE (CIO.GAL/100/05 of 27 June 2005),

Decides to hold the High-Level OSCE Consultations in Vienna, on 12 and 13 September 2005;

Adopts the organizational modalities and the indicative timetable of the High-Level OSCE Consultations, as contained in the annex.

I. Organizational modalities

Decision No. 16/04 on Establishment of the Panel of Eminent Persons on Strengthening the Effectiveness of the OSCE, adopted at the Twelfth Meeting of the Ministerial Council in Sofia, stipulates that the specially convened High-Level OSCE Consultations shall be held as a follow-up to the presentation of the report of the Panel of Eminent Persons. The Consultations will examine the report of the Panel as well as other possible contributions, preferably to be submitted in advance, and will forward their conclusions and recommendations through the Permanent Council to the Ministerial Council meeting in 2005 for appropriate action.

The High-Level OSCE Consultations will take place in the Neuer Saal of the Hofburg. Rooms for additional *ad-hoc* meetings will be made available to participants upon advance notification.

The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level, preferably by senior officials from the capitals.

The OSCE Parliamentary Assembly and the OSCE institutions will be invited to attend the High-Level OSCE Consultations. The Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation will be invited to attend the closing session.

Each delegation of a participating State will be provided with a total of four seats, including one at the table. The European Union (EU) will have one seat at the table next to the participating State holding the EU Presidency.

A limited number of seats will be reserved for the Secretariat, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, institutions and Partners for Co-operation.

Interpretation will be provided in the six working languages of the OSCE.

The work of the High-Level Consultations will be conducted in sessions, as described in the indicative timetable. The opening session is intended to set the stage for the substantive, focused and interactive discussions in the working sessions. The lists of subtopics assigned to the working sessions are designed to systematize and focus the Consultations and are in no way exhaustive or limitative.

The participating States are encouraged to engage in interactive discussions; therefore, the interventions at the working sessions should be as concise as possible and should not exceed five minutes. In case of contributions exceeding prescribed five minutes, delegations are encouraged to circulate written texts in advance.

The Chairmanship's perception paper will reflect the discussions, including the views, recommendations and conclusions on appropriate follow-up activities.

II. Indicative timetable

Monday, 12 September 2005

- 10–10.15 a.m. **Opening session**
- Opening statement by the representative of the Chairman-in-Office
Statement by the OSCE Secretary General
- 10.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Purpose and priorities**
- Chairperson: Representative of the Chairmanship
- Issues to be discussed at this session are, *inter alia*:
- Common purpose and priorities
 - The OSCE's position in the European security architecture
 - Identity and profile
 - Cross-dimensionality, comprehensive approach to security
 - Complementarity with other international actors
 - Co-operation with States and non-State actors
- 1–3 p.m. Lunch break
- 3–6 p.m. **Structures, procedures and practices**
- Chairperson: Representative of Belgium
- Issues to be discussed at this session are, *inter alia*:
- Consultative and decision-making process (decision-making bodies and their subsidiary bodies)
 - Clarifying the roles of the Chairman-in-Office and the Secretary General
 - The Secretariat
 - The institutions
- 6 p.m. Reception hosted by the Chairmanship

Tuesday, 13 September 2005

- 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. **Structures, procedures and practices**
- Chairperson: Representative of Bulgaria
- Issues to be discussed in this session are, *inter alia*:
- OSCE field operations
 - OSCE's functioning in three dimensions
 - The politico-military dimension

- The economic and environmental dimension
- The human dimension
- Operational capacities of the OSCE

1–3 p.m. Lunch break

3–5 p.m. **Closing session**

Chairperson: Representative of the Chairmanship

- The way forward