

**66th Plenary Meeting**

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**DECISION No. 115**

The Permanent Council takes positive note of the report by the OSCE Mission to Georgia of 1 March 1996 and of the proposal to contribute to the establishment by the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights of a Human Rights Office in Sukhumi, the aims of which will be:

- to promote the respect for and protection of human rights of the population concerned in conformity with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, other relevant international instruments, and OSCE commitments;
- to contribute to a safe and dignified return of refugees and internally displaced persons through improvement of the human rights situation;
- to report on human rights developments in conformity with UN and OSCE practices.

Therefore, the Permanent Council

- tasks the Secretary General with establishing, in close consultation with the OSCE Mission to Georgia, an understanding with the UN (High Commissioner on Human Rights) concerning the Human Rights Office;
- tasks the OSCE Mission to Georgia with preparing further practical steps, in consultation with the Secretary General and all parties involved, and in co-operation with the United Nations; and
- tasks the Secretary General with exploring further the financial implications of this decision, taking into account in particular any flexibility existing within the approved Mission budget in terms of personnel, investment and running costs, and with submitting a corresponding financial assessment for review by the informal Financial Committee of Experts and subsequent decision by the Permanent Council. The OSCE personnel allocated to the Office would remain under the responsibility of the OSCE Mission to Georgia.