



Chairmanship: Lithuania

888th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

1. Date: Thursday, 17 November 2011

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 12.50 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Norkus

Prior to taking up the agenda, on behalf of the Permanent Council, the Chairperson welcomed the new Permanent Representative of Greece to the OSCE, Ambassador Eustathios Lozos.

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE HIGH COMMISSIONER ON NATIONAL MINORITIES

High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM.GAL/3/11 OSCE+), Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1089/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/1081/11), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1106/11 OSCE+), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1094/11), Ukraine, Georgia, Serbia (PC.DEL/1086/11 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1080/11 OSCE+), Switzerland, Armenia, Latvia, Azerbaijan, Estonia (PC.DEL/1124/11 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Canada, Albania (PC.DEL/1098/11), Chairperson

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE TIMETABLE AND
 ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE EIGHTEENTH
 MEETING OF THE OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1008 (PC.DEC/1008) on the timetable and organizational modalities of the Eighteenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Attack in Taraz, Kazakhstan, on 12 November 2011:* Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1090/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/1083/11), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1107/11), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1095/11)
- (b) *Freedom of the media in the United States of America:* Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1091/11), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1108/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/1085/11)
- (c) *“Presidential elections” in South Ossetia:* Poland-European Union (PC.DEL/1092/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/1084/11)
- (d) *Human rights and the rule of law in Belarus:* Poland-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; as well as the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1093/11), United States of America (PC.DEL/1082/11), Belarus (PC.DEL/1097/11), Chairperson
- (e) *Recent uncovering of hate crimes in Germany:* Turkey (PC.DEL/1104/11), Germany (PC.DEL/1087/11)

Agenda item 4: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Participation of the Chairperson-in-Office in the Conference on Tolerance and Totalitarianism: Challenges to Freedom, held in Vilnius on 16 November 2011: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/234/11)*
- (b) *Appointment of the Deputy Head of the OSCE Centre in Bishkek (CIO.GAL/225/11): Chairperson (CIO.GAL/234/11)*
- (c) *Preparations in view of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, to be held in Vilnius on 6 and 7 December 2011: Chairperson*

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General: Secretary General*
- (b) *Participation of the Secretary General in the Istanbul Conference for Afghanistan: Security and Cooperation in the Heart of Asia, high-level regional conference, held in Istanbul on 2 November 2011: Secretary General*
- (c) *Participation of the Secretary General in the high-level Chairmanship Conference on Integrating Global Energy Markets – Providing Energy Security, held in Ashgabat on 3 and 4 November 2011: Secretary General*
- (d) *Visit of the Secretary General to Dublin, on 10 and 11 November 2011: Secretary General*
- (e) *Address by the Secretary General to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament, in Strasbourg, on 14 November 2011: Secretary General*
- (f) *Call for voluntary contributions for the Community Security Initiative in Kyrgyzstan and the project on the disposal of mélange in Ukraine: Secretary General*

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Flight information for the Eighteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council, to be held in Vilnius on 6 and 7 December 2011 (MC.INF/12/11): Chairperson*
- (b) *Organizational matters related to meetings of the Preparatory Committee in view of the Eighteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council: Chairperson*
- (c) *Parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan, to be held on 15 January 2012: Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/1096/11)*

- (d) *Announcement of an ambassadorial charity concert to be held in Vienna on 25 November 2011: Austria*

4. Next meeting:

Friday, 18 November 2011, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



888th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 888, Agenda item 2

DECISION No. 1008
TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
OF THE EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

(Vilnius, 6 and 7 December 2011)

I. Timetable

Tuesday, 6 December 2011

9.20 a.m. Family photo

9.30 a.m. **Opening session (open)**

- Formal opening and adoption of the agenda
- Address by a representative of the host country
- Address by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office
- Address by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly
- Report by the OSCE Secretary General

First plenary session (closed)

- Statements by heads of delegations

1 p.m. Working luncheon hosted by the Chairperson-in-Office

Separate lunch for members of delegations

3–6 p.m. **Second plenary session (closed)**

- Statements by heads of delegations

- 7.30 p.m. Reception for members of delegations and the press
- 8 p.m. Official dinner for ministers for foreign affairs/heads of delegations

Wednesday, 7 December 2011

9.30 a.m. **Third plenary session (closed)**

- Statements by heads of delegations
- Adoption of Ministerial Council decisions and documents
- Any other business

Closing session (open)

- Address by a representative of the host country
- Formal closure (statements by the current and incoming Chairpersons-in-Office)

- 1.30 p.m. Press conference of the OSCE Troika ministers

II. Organizational modalities

1. The Eighteenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council will be conducted in accordance with the OSCE Rules of Procedure.
2. The Meeting will be held at the Lithuanian Exhibition and Congress Centre LITEXPO. Delegations of the participating States will be provided with one seat at the table, at least four seats behind the table and additional seats in the plenary hall.
3. The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to attend the Meeting and make contributions:

The United Nations, the Council of Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

These organizations will be invited to address the Meeting in the above order after the statements by the participating States and the Partners for Co-operation.

4. The international organizations, institutions and initiatives mentioned in paragraph II.8 of Permanent Council Decision No. 951 of 29 July 2010 will be invited to attend the Meeting and make written contributions.

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Activities in parallel to the Ministerial Council meeting

On the margins of the Ministerial Council meeting, the OSCE Troika Ministers will hold a meeting with the ministers for foreign affairs of the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and a meeting with the ministers for foreign affairs of the Asian Partners for Co-operation.

The organizational modalities foreseen for the Eighteenth Meeting of the Ministerial Council will not apply to the parallel activities.