



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

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724th Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 859
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF
THE 2008 OSCE-AFGHANISTAN CONFERENCE**

Kabul, Afghanistan, 9 and 10 November 2008

The Permanent Council,

Further to its Decision No. 851/Rev.1 to hold the 2008 OSCE-Afghanistan Conference on the topic “Strengthening Co-operation between the OSCE and its Asian Partners for Co-operation to Address Challenges to Security” in Kabul, on 9 and 10 November 2008,

Taking into account the recommendations contained in its Decision No. 762 on guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings,

Adopts the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the Conference, as contained in the annex.

**AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES
OF THE 2008 OSCE-AFGHANISTAN CONFERENCE ON
STRENGTHENING CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE
OSCE AND ITS ASIAN PARTNERS FOR CO-OPERATION
TO ADDRESS CHALLENGES TO SECURITY**

Kabul, Afghanistan, 9 and 10 November 2008

**Co-hosted by the
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and
the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

I. Agenda

Sunday, 9 November 2008

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| 9.30–10.15 a.m. | Opening session |
| | Co-chair: Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office
Representative of the host country |
| | Opening addresses |
| | — Representative of the host country |
| | — Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office |
| | — Representative of the Chairmanship of the Contact
Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation |
| | — Secretary General of the OSCE |
| 10.15–10.30 a.m. | Break |
| 10.30 a.m.–12.30 p.m. | Session 1: The OSCE's contribution to capacity-building in the
OSCE region and the Asian Partners for Co-operation |
| | This session will focus on: |
| | — Promoting institution-building, election
capacity-building, respect for and enjoyment of human
rights and democratization as components for security
and stability; |
| | — The Partnership Fund as a tool to foster deeper relations
with the Partners for Co-operation; |

- The role of the OSCE in the follow-up to the June 2008 Paris International Conference in support of Afghanistan;
- The relevance of the OSCE human dimension commitments to security and stability in the Asian Partners for Co-operation.

12.30–2 p.m.

Break

2–5 p.m.

Session 2: Threats to the common security and stability of the OSCE participating States and the Asian Partners for Co-operation, with particular attention to Central Asia and Afghanistan

This session will focus on:

- Follow-up to the July 2008 OSCE Expert Conference on International Co-operation to Combat Trafficking in Illicit Drugs and Chemical Precursors;
- Concrete mechanisms for increased engagement by the Asian Partners in countering terrorism and organized crime.

3.30–3.45 p.m.

Break

3.45–5 p.m.

Discussion (continued)

5 p.m.

End of the first day

Monday, 10 November 2008

9.30–11.15 a.m.

Session 3: Challenges and opportunities in border security and management, including customs modernization

This session will focus on:

- Best practices in securing borders and streamlining border and customs procedures;
- Increasing State revenue through improved management of borders;
- Fighting corruption and illegal activities, including all forms of trafficking;

	—	Training initiatives in customs and border management.
11.15–11.45 a.m.		Break
11.45 a.m.–1 p.m.		Concluding session and closing remarks
	Co-chair:	Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office Representative of the host country
	—	Rapporteurs' reports of sessions 1 to 3
	—	Chairpersons' summary
	—	Representative of the Chairmanship of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation
	—	Representative of the host country
1 p.m.		Closing of the Conference

II. Participation

The OSCE participating States are invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The Partners for Co-operation will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The OSCE institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference: Afghanistan National Development Strategy, Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), Asia Pacific Economic Co-operation, Central European Initiative, Collective Security Treaty Organization, Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, Council of Europe, Economic Co-operation Organization, Eurasian Economic Community, Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of the Red Cross, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation, Organization of the Islamic Conference, Shanghai Co-operation Organization, United Nations, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, World Customs Organization and the World Bank.

Representatives of the members of the ARF may attend as guests of the host country. Other countries and organizations may also be invited by the host country.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations will be able to attend and contribute to the Conference in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices (advance registration required).

III. Timetable and other organizational modalities

The Conference will begin at 9.30 a.m. (opening session) on 9 November 2008 and end at 1 p.m. on 10 November 2008.

The opening and closing sessions will be chaired by a representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and a representative of the host country.

Each session will have a moderator and a rapporteur. The consolidated summary will be forwarded to the Permanent Council.

Rules of procedure and working methods of the OSCE will be applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to the Conference.

The opening and closing sessions will be open to the media.

The Conference will be held in Kabul, Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

The working language will be English.