



463rd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 463, Agenda item 5

**DECISION No. 559
FINANCING ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN
THE OSCE AND THE AUSTRIAN REPUBLIC RELATED TO THE
WALLNERSTRASSE PREMISES OF THE OSCE SECRETARIAT AND
THE REPRESENTATIVE ON FREEDOM OF THE MEDIA**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 9 of 7 December 2002 on the new premises of the OSCE Secretariat and the Representative on Freedom of the Media,

Taking note of PC.IFC/53/03 of 13 June 2003 on the proposed financing arrangement between the OSCE and the Austrian Republic related to the renovation and refurbishment of the designated premises in the Wallnerstrasse, as well as the required adjustments to this building and security arrangements,

Expressing its appreciation to the Austrian authorities that the building will be renovated and enlarged at the expense of the host country at an estimated cost of EUR 17.97 Million (excluding VAT),

Furthermore, expressing its appreciation to the Austrian authorities that the host country will also share a substantial part of the costs related to building adjustments and security arrangements, estimated at a further EUR 8.61 Million (excluding VAT),

Noting that any costs in excess of this total estimate of EUR 26.58 Million (excluding VAT) will be borne by the host country,

Decides to approve an amount of up to EUR 3.96 Million (excluding VAT) as the OSCE's share in the costs for the required building adjustments and security arrangements;

Affirms that this financing arrangement will apply for the duration of the implementation of these works, currently foreseen from 2003 through 2007;

Tasks the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance, in consultation with the Secretariat, to elaborate the funding modalities pertaining to this Decision in the course of 2003;

Calls on the Secretary General to make every effort to ensure the most cost-efficient and timely use of the OSCE's resources allocated for this purpose, including where possible

through joint procurement arrangements with the host country, and, where appropriate, through the use of expert advisers;

Requests the Secretary General to keep participating States informed, through the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance, of the contractual arrangements with the host country relating to the Wallnerstrasse premises, both in the course of their elaboration and prior to their finalization.