

**Chairmanship: Malta**

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
(1491st Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Wednesday, 9 October 2024 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)  
  
Opened: 6 p.m.  
Closed: 6.10 p.m.
  
2. Chairperson: Mr. A. Sant Fournier
  
3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:  
  
Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2024 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1488 (PC.DEC/1488) on the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Kazakhstan (also on behalf Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), United States of America (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision), United Kingdom (interpretative statement, see attachment 4 to the decision)

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

None

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 17 October 2024, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference



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

PC.DEC/1488  
9 October 2024

Original: ENGLISH

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**1491st Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1491, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 1488**  
**AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF**  
**THE 2024 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE**

(Vienna, 15 and 16 October 2024)

The Permanent Council,

Further to the discussion within the framework of the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation Group,

Welcoming the offer by North Macedonia and Japan to co-host the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference,

Decides:

1. That the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference will take place in Vienna on 15 and 16 October 2024 on the topic “Towards stronger partnerships for sustainable peace and security”;
2. To organize the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference in accordance with the agenda and organizational modalities contained in the annex to this decision.

**AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES  
OF THE 2024 OSCE ASIAN CONFERENCE  
“TOWARDS STRONGER PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE  
PEACE AND SECURITY”**

(Vienna, 15 and 16 October 2024)

**Co-organized by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Japan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of North Macedonia and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)**

**I. Agenda**

**Tuesday, 15 October 2024**

2–3 p.m.

Opening remarks (livestreamed)

Addresses by:

- Representative of North Macedonia/Chairperson, OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation Group
- Representative of Japan
- Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship (Malta)
- Representative of Finland/Troika/Chairperson, OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation Group
- Officer-in-Charge/Secretary General of the OSCE,
- Representatives of the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation

3–4.30 p.m.

Session 1: Strengthening synergies between the OSCE and Asia in advancing global commitments to the women, peace and security agenda

The objective of this session is to share experiences, best practices and lessons learned in promoting women’s empowerment and women’s equal participation in the security sector and peace processes. In particular, the focus will be on:

- Initiatives and activities to address current challenges in the implementation of the women, peace and security agenda;

- Best practices and innovative approaches to integrating gender perspectives in conflict resolution and peacebuilding frameworks;
- Collaborative initiatives aimed at enhancing the capacity of women at all levels of decision-making) to engage in mediation and dialogue-facilitation processes.

**Wednesday, 16 October 2024**

10–11.30 a.m.

Session 2: Strengthening effective OSCE-Asian co-operation in addressing challenges caused by climate change

As a threat multiplier, climate change can exacerbate economic challenges and environmental degradation, which may ultimately affect prosperity, stability and security in the OSCE area and beyond. This session will focus on:

- The intersection of impacts of climate change, degradation of the environment, and security risks;
- Case studies illustrating the potential security implications of climate change in both Asia and the OSCE area;
- Strategies for co-operating in climate adaptation and mitigation efforts, emphasizing resilience-building and sustainable development;
- The importance of a multi-stakeholder approach to tackling climate change, including promoting the effective participation of women.

11.30 a.m.–12 noon

Coffee break

12 noon–1.30 p.m.

Session 3: Strengthening and protecting the rule of law and human rights as essential factors for sustainable peace and security

Respect for rule of law and human rights is indispensable for peace, security, and sustainable development in line with OSCE commitments and national and international legislation. This session will focus on:

- Challenges to and possibilities stemming from greater co-operation on the promotion of the rule of law;
- Strengthening the rule of law through the development of legal systems;
- The importance of the protection of human rights, with particular attention to non-discrimination efforts;
- Collaborative frameworks for enhancing legal frameworks and governance practices;

- The importance of judicial independence and anti-corruption initiatives.

1.30–2 p.m.

Closing remarks

## **II. Participation**

The OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation are invited to attend and contribute to the Conference.

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

The international organizations that may be invited are the security-related organizations mentioned in Permanent Council Decision No. 951 of 29 July 2010.

Consideration will be given to the possibility of inviting security-related scientific institutes, think tanks of international standing and NGOs to be represented as members of national delegations.

## **III. Timetable and other organizational modalities**

The Conference will begin at 2 p.m. (opening remarks) on 15 October 2024 and end at 2 p.m. on 16 October 2024.

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

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

The Conference will be held in Vienna. The working language will be English.

PC.DEC/1488  
9 October 2024  
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Kazakhstan (also on behalf of Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan):

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The following participating States – Azerbaijan, Kyrgyzstan, Türkiye, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan align themselves with this statement.

In connection with the adoption of this decision on the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference, we would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We welcome the offer by North Macedonia and Japan to co-host the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference on 15 and 16 October 2024 in Vienna. We express our support to the agenda of the Asian Conference devoted to the topic “Towards stronger partnerships for sustainable peace and security”.

As the current chair of the Organization of Turkic States we would like to remind that – 15 years ago – the Nakhchivan Agreement on the establishment of the Cooperation Council of Turkic States was signed on 3 October 2009.

During the 8th Summit held in November 2021 in Istanbul, this Council was transformed to the Organization of Turkic States.

The Organization is dedicated to strengthening peace and stability, promoting wide-ranging co-operation and disclosing the potential for common development among its member States.

The Organization operates in similar areas with the OSCE, which offers an untapped potential for increased co-operation between the two Organizations.

In this regard, we look forward to the Chairmanship of North Macedonia including the Organization of Turkic States to the list of invited organizations to the upcoming Asian Conference.

We request that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”



PC.DEC/1488  
9 October 2024  
Attachment 2

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference, the Russian Federation notes the following.

We regret that there has been a shift at the OSCE away from the collective elaboration and adoption of decisions, decisions that are now prepared by a group of countries and submitted to the other States as a final document that is in effect not subject to amendment.

The Russian Federation disagrees with the formulations in the decision containing reference to gender perspectives and linking climate and security in one sentence – formulations that go beyond the scope of OSCE commitments in this field – and does not regard them as setting a precedent. We stress that our expression of support for the decision is based on the desire to maintain consensus in the Organization.

We call upon the incoming Maltese Chairmanship of the Asian Partners for Co-operation Group to take these comments into account when making preparations for the OSCE Asian Conference in 2025. We are ready to engage constructively in this work.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.”

PC.DEC/1488  
9 October 2024  
Attachment 3

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United States of America:

“In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the dates, agenda and organizational modalities of the 2024 OSCE Asian Conference, the United States would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

The United States thanks North Macedonia for its inclusive consultations on the OSCE Asian Conference agenda. Security in the Indo-Pacific is inseparably linked to that of the OSCE area, so we welcome consensus on an agenda allowing full discussion of those ties.

As all participating States decided in Ministerial Council Decisions No. 14/04 and No. 14/05, a comprehensive concept of security must include gender. As also decided in Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/21, the OSCE mandate clearly includes addressing the impacts of climate change and, further, should involve effective participation of women in associated decision-making around climate.

The United States fully supports North Macedonia and Japan holding a conference that includes these topics.

We request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.”

PC.DEC/1488  
9 October 2024  
Attachment 4

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

“Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

The United Kingdom would like to make a short interpretative statement under the relevant OSCE Rules of Procedure.

We are pleased that consensus could be reached on this decision, particularly after the transparent and inclusive consultations undertaken by our colleagues from North Macedonia as Chairmanship of the OSCE Asian Partners for Co-operation Group.

We support the topics which have been chosen for the thematic sessions as they have been presented – topics which offer an opportunity for rich discussion with our Asian Partners for Co-operation on issues of shared interest.

Thank you.”