
Chairmanship: Kazakhstan**806th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 22 April 2010

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 11.50 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador K. Abdrakhmanov

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2010 HUMAN DIMENSION SEMINAR

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 936 (PC.DEC/936) on the agenda, timetable and other organizational modalities of the 2010 Human Dimension Seminar, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

(a) *Recent developments in Kyrgyzstan and visit of the Chairperson-in-Office to Bishkek on 20 April 2010:* Chairperson, Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/76/10 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan (PC.DEL/289/10), Spain-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/285/10), United States of America (PC.DEL/278/10), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/288/10), Belarus

(b) *The death penalty in the United States of America:* Spain-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of

Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Azerbaijan, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/287/10), United States of America (PC.DEL/280/10)

- (c) *Combating corruption in the OSCE area*: United States of America (PC.DEL/281/10)
- (d) *The case of journalist Mr. Ernest Vardanean*: United States of America (PC.DEL/279/10), Spain-European Union (PC.DEL/286/10), Moldova (PC.DEL/292/10)
- (e) *Humanitarian emergency in Tajikistan*: Tajikistan (PC.DEL/282/10), Spain-European Union, United States of America, Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/290/10)

Agenda item 3: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
 CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Visit of the President of Kazakhstan and the Chairperson-in-Office to the Republic of Korea on 21 and 22 April 2010*: Chairperson
- (b) *Participation of the Chairperson-in-Office in a meeting of the Council of the Assembly of People of Kazakhstan held in Astana on 19 April 2010*: Chairperson

Agenda item 4: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Joint UN-OSCE training course on mediation, held in Sandö, Sweden, from 8 to 14 April 2010 (SEC.GAL/75/10 OSCE+)*: Secretary General
- (b) *Expert meeting on human rights protection in the return of trafficked persons to countries of origin, held in Warsaw on 14 April 2010 (SEC.GAL/75/10 OSCE+)*: Secretary General
- (c) *Action against Terrorism Unit workshop on the 2005 universal legal instruments against terrorism, to be held in Vienna on 29 and 30 April 2010 (SEC.GAL/75/10 OSCE+)*: Secretary General
- (d) *Conference on strengthening regional co-operation in Central Asia for promoting stable and reliable energy in Eurasia, to be held in Ashgabat on 3 and 4 May 2010 (SEC.GAL/75/10 OSCE+)*: Secretary General

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Closure of a plutonium reactor in the Russian Federation*: Russian Federation

- (b) *Presidential elections in Poland, to be held on 20 June and 4 July 2010:*
Poland

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 29 April 2010, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



806th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 806, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 936
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL
MODALITIES OF THE 2010 HUMAN DIMENSION SEMINAR**

Warsaw, 17 to 19 May 2010

Strengthening Judicial Independence and Public Access to Justice

I. Agenda

1. Opening of the Seminar
2. Opening plenary: keynote addresses
3. Discussion in four working groups
4. Closing plenary: summing up and closing of the Seminar

II. Timetable and other organizational modalities

1. The Seminar will open on Monday, 17 May 2010, at 10 a.m. It will close on Wednesday, 19 May 2010, at 6 p.m.
2. All plenary sessions and working group sessions will be open to all participants.
3. The closing plenary session, scheduled for the afternoon of 19 May 2010, will focus on practical suggestions and recommendations for addressing the issues discussed during the working group sessions.
4. The plenary and working group sessions will take place in accordance with the work programme below.
5. A representative of the ODIHR will chair the plenary sessions.
6. The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE and the modalities for OSCE meetings on human dimension issues (Permanent Council Decision No. 476) will be followed, *mutatis*

mutandis, at the Seminar. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (Permanent Council Decision No. 762) will be taken into account.

7. The discussions during the plenary and working group sessions will be interpreted from and into the six working languages of the OSCE.

Working Group I: Judicial Administration with a Special Focus on Judicial Councils

- Composition of judicial councils, appointment and dismissal of members
- Competencies of judicial councils in judicial administration
- Councils' powers and mechanisms to protect judges from improper influences
- Role of other bodies of judicial self-governance in judicial administration
- Role of the executive and legislature in judicial administration
- Role of court presidents in judicial administration

Working Group II: Selection of Judges: Criteria and Procedure

- Selection criteria to ensure selection of the most qualified candidates for the judicial profession
- Written examinations and personal interviews, transparent evaluation systems
- Selection procedure, its fairness and transparency for candidates and the public
- Appointment of judges and powers of the appointing authority

Working Group III: Accountability of Judges

- Judges' accountability and professionalism: discipline and ethical standards
- Immunity for judges, criminal offences applicable to adjudication
- Balancing accountability with the need for independence in adjudication
- Outcome of appeals and judges' accountability: consequences of reversed judgments for the judges

Working Group IV: Public Access to Justice

- Best practices in ensuring access to justice
- Best practices in ensuring access to courts in rural and remote areas
- Access to legal counsel in civil, administrative and criminal cases

- Legal aid in non-criminal cases: models and mechanisms to facilitate better access to justice
- Enforcement of judgments: challenges and solutions

Work programme

Working hours: 10 a.m.–1 p.m.
3–6 p.m.

	Monday 17 May 2010	Tuesday 18 May 2010	Wednesday 19 May 2010
Morning	Opening plenary	Working group II	Working group IV
Afternoon	Working group I	Working group III	Closing plenary