



**Delegation of Ukraine  
to the OSCE**

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**Statement on the Decision of the Permanent Council  
Regarding the Time, Venue, Theme, Agenda and Organizational Modalities  
for the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum**

As for delivery by Ambassador Volodymyr Yelchenko to the Permanent Council  
24 July 2008

Mr. Chairman,

With respect to the just adopted Decision of the Permanent Council Regarding the Time, Venue, Theme, Agenda and Organizational Modalities for the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum, the Delegation of Ukraine would like to state the following.

We welcome the choice of the incoming Greek Chairmanship to devote the next Economic and Environmental Forum to the topic of migration. We regret, however, that our proposals that the draft decision include the reference to the topics of human rights of migrants and of the environmentally induced migration were not reflected in the text.

We remain convinced that the aspect of respect for human rights of migrants continues to be an integral part of the topic of migration management. In this regard, we welcome the commitment expressed by the Greek delegation to duly address this issue in the course of the events in the framework of the Forum process. We are looking forward to a productive discussion on this matter, especially in the second segment of the Forum, where the review of implementation of the OSCE commitments related to migration will take place.

We also expect the Forum to remain seized with the issue of migration caused by the Chernobyl nuclear accident, taking into consideration the provisions of the OSCE Ministerial Declaration of 2005 on the 20th Anniversary of the Disaster at the Chernobyl Nuclear power plant and of the Madrid Declaration of 2007 on Environment and Security, and we hope that the discussions will result in specific projects.

Mr. Chairman, I request that this statement be attached to the Journal of the day.

I thank you.