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**Chairmanship: Italy****1186th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 17 May 2018

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Suspended: 12.50 p.m.  
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.  
Closed: 5.20 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni  
Mr. M. Lapadura

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, offered condolences to France in connection with an attack that took place in Paris on 12 May 2018.

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

Agenda item 1: PRESENTATION OF THE 2019 PROGRAMME OUTLINE  
BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Secretary General, Bulgaria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; as well as Andorra, Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/638/18), Chairperson, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/615/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/643/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/650/18 OSCE+), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/619/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/616/18), Canada (PC.DEL/621/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/632/18), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/642/18 OSCE+), Moldova, Armenia (PC.DEL/652/18), Holy See (PC.DEL/620/18 OSCE+), Ukraine

Agenda item 2: REPORT OF THE HEAD OF THE OSCE PROGRAMME  
OFFICE IN DUSHANBE

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Dushanbe  
(PC.FR/11/18 OSCE+), Bulgaria-European Union (with the candidate

countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/639/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/617/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/645/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/651/18 OSCE+), Kazakhstan (PC.DEL/649/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/624/18), Norway (PC.DEL/631/18), Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation), Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan (PC.DEL/648/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 3:           DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUE OF THE  
2018 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1292 (PC.DEC/1292) on the dates and venue of the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 4:           DECISION ON THE FINANCING ARRANGEMENT FOR  
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE 2018 OSCE UNIFIED  
BUDGET AND SMM BUDGET

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1293 (PC.DEC/1293/Corr.1) on the financing arrangement for implementation of the 2018 OSCE Unified Budget and SMM budget, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Russian Federation (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), France (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Azerbaijan (interpretative statement, see attachment 3 to the decision)

Agenda item 5:           REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/635/18), Bulgaria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia and Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/640/18), Switzerland (PC.DEL/646/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/633/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/626/18), Canada (PC.DEL/622/18 OSCE+)



*Terrorist Fighters (FTFs): Challenges for the OSCE Area and Beyond*”, held in Rome on 10 and 11 May 2018: Head of Conference and Language Services

- (f) *Call for nominations for the positions of Head of Mission, Programme Office in Dushanbe, and OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine*: Head of Conference and Language Services
- (g) *Planned visits and meetings of the Secretary General*: Head of Conference and Language Services

Agenda item 8: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Farewell to the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the OSCE, Ambassador M. Ieronymides*: Dean of the Permanent Council (Liechtenstein), Cyprus
- (b) *Attack on the journalist Ms. O. Latic in Montenegro*: Montenegro, Bulgaria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; and the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/641/18/Rev.1)
- (c) *Remembrance of the victims of political repression under the Communist totalitarian regime*: Ukraine (PC.DEL/634/18/Corr.1), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/628/18) (PC.DEL/630/18)
- (d) *Needs assessment mission report by the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on the early presidential and parliamentary elections to be held in Turkey on 24 June 2018*: Turkey (PC.DEL/644/18 OSCE+)
- (e) *First observance of World Bee Day on 20 May 2018*: Slovenia (PC.DEL/623/18)

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 31 May 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.DEC/1292  
17 May 2018

Original: ENGLISH

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**1186th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1186, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1292  
DATES AND VENUE OF THE 2018 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN  
CONFERENCE**

(Malaga, Spain, 25 and 26 October 2018)

The Permanent Council,

Welcoming the willingness of Spain to host the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, and further to discussions with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation,

Decides to hold the 2018 OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Malaga, Spain, on 25 and 26 October 2018.

The agenda, timetable and other organizational modalities of the Conference will be further elaborated in the framework of the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation and submitted to the Permanent Council for adoption.



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

PC.DEC/1293/Corr.1<sup>1</sup>  
17 May 2018

Original: ENGLISH

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**1186th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1186, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 1293  
FINANCING ARRANGEMENT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
2018 OSCE UNIFIED BUDGET AND SMM BUDGET**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the OSCE Financial Regulations,

Taking into account that no agreement on the Scales of Contributions could be reached to date,

Decides to establish as an exceptional measure a provisional financing arrangement for implementation of the 2018 Unified Budget, including any revisions, as well as the budget of the SMM for the 2018 period, as contained in the attached annex. This financing arrangement is without prejudice to the decision on the Scales of Contributions to be reached by the Informal Working Group.

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1 Includes a correction to the translation of attachment 1 to the decision.

## 2018 SCALES OF CONTRIBUTIONS

<b>Participating State</b>	<b>Standard scale per cent for 2018</b>	<b>Field operation scale per cent for 2018</b>
Albania	0.125	0.020
Germany	9.350	12.060
United States of America	11.500	14.000
Andorra	0.125	0.020
Armenia	0.050	0.020
Austria	2.510	2.160
Azerbaijan	0.050	0.020
Belarus	0.280	0.040
Belgium	3.240	3.420
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.125	0.020
Bulgaria	0.550	0.050
Canada	5.530	5.340
Cyprus	0.190	0.110
Croatia	0.190	0.110
Denmark	2.100	2.050
Spain	4.580	5.000
Estonia	0.190	0.020
Finland	1.850	1.980
France	9.350	11.090
Georgia	0.050	0.020
United Kingdom	9.350	11.090
Greece	0.980	0.730
Hungary	0.600	0.380
Ireland	0.750	0.790
Iceland	0.190	0.090
Italy	9.350	11.090
Kazakhstan	0.360	0.060
Kyrgyzstan	0.050	0.020
Latvia	0.190	0.025
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	0.125	0.020
Liechtenstein	0.125	0.020
Lithuania	0.190	0.025
Luxembourg	0.470	0.250

**2018 SCALES OF CONTRIBUTIONS (continued)**

<b>Participating State</b>	<b>Standard scale per cent for 2018</b>	<b>Field operation scale per cent for 2018</b>
Malta	0.125	0.025
Moldova	0.050	0.020
Monaco	0.125	0.020
Mongolia	0.050	0.020
Montenegro	0.050	0.020
Norway	2.050	2.070
Uzbekistan	0.350	0.050
Netherlands	4.360	3.570
Poland	1.350	1.050
Portugal	0.980	0.560
Romania	0.600	0.120
Russian Federation	6.000	2.500
San Marino	0.125	0.020
Holy See	0.125	0.020
Serbia	0.140	0.020
Slovakia	0.280	0.150
Slovenia	0.220	0.175
Sweden	3.240	3.410
Switzerland	2.810	2.720
Tajikistan	0.050	0.020
Czech Republic	0.570	0.420
Turkmenistan	0.050	0.020
Turkey	1.010	0.750
Ukraine	0.680	0.140
<b>Total</b>	<b>100.055</b>	<b>100.030</b>

**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:

“In joining the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the financing arrangement for implementation of the 2018 OSCE Unified Budget and SMM Budget, the Russian Federation notes the following.

The Russian Federation regards this decision as an adequate measure for issuing statements of accounts to participating States for payment of their contributions to the OSCE Unified Budget and the SMM Budget this year on the basis of the Scales of Contributions established by Permanent Council Decision No. 1196 of 17 December 2015. In that connection, we regard as inadmissible the retroactive application of future Scales of Contributions and the recalculation of payments as well as the issuing of interim statements of accounts, since this conflicts with the Russian Federation’s fiscal legislation.

The Russian Federation is in favour of resuming the activities of the Informal Working Group on the OSCE Scales of Contributions on the basis of Permanent Council Decision No. 1072 of 7 February 2013 and all the criteria and elements specified therein, which this Group should be guided by. We are ready to participate constructively in this work.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of the day.”

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1 Includes a correction to the translation of the interpretative statement on the basis of a correction to the source text.

PC.DEC/1293/Corr.1  
17 May 2018  
Attachment 2

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

**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 France:

“France joins the consensus on the decision regarding the provisional financing arrangement for the budgetary commitments for 2018 with the following reservations regarding its interpretation.

The measure presented in this decision does not in any way represent an agreement on the extension of the scales that expired on 31 December 2017 but is rather a simple provisional arrangement to permit the financing of the OSCE in 2018, similar to the precedent in 2005.

This measure is an exceptional one. It should not be renewed in 2019 and does not in any way prejudice the results of the negotiating process on the Scales of Contributions restarted by the Chairmanship. Once the scales for 2018 have been agreed, a retroactive adjustment of the contributions will be necessary, once again like the precedent in 2005.

A decision on the new scales is necessary by 31 December this year for 2018 but also for 2019 and beyond so as not once again to put the OSCE in a fragile position with regard to its financing.

In order to avoid a repetition of the present situation and with account taken of the positions held by several participating States, France retains the possibility of making the adoption of the budget for 2019 contingent on a prior agreement on new scales.

All participating States have committed themselves to a process of reform of the OSCE scales based on the work of the working group and on a number of Permanent Council decisions, particularly Decisions No. 468, No. 704, No. 850, No. 924, No. 980, No. 1027, No. 1072 and No. 1196 adopted between 2002 and 2015. After more than six years of discussion in Vienna, the Working Group on the Scales of Contributions should now make specific recommendations to the Permanent Council.

In that context, we welcome the laudable intention stated by the Chairmanship of convening a meeting of experts from the capitals on 25 June to relaunch these negotiations.

I request that this statement be attached to the decision adopted and the journal of the day.”

**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 Azerbaijan:

“In connection with the decision on the financing arrangement for implementation of the 2018 Unified Budget and SMM budget adopted by the Permanent Council, the delegation of Azerbaijan would like to make the following interpretative statement for the record.

The delegation of Azerbaijan joined the consensus on this decision on the basis of understanding that in the absence of the revised Scales of Contributions the 2018 Unified Budget, including any revision, as well as the budget of the SMM for 2018, shall be financed through assessed contributions by all participating States as established by application of the Scales of Contributions, approved by Permanent Council Decision No. 1196 of 17 December 2015, contained in the annex attached to the present decision.

The Permanent Council in this decision specifically emphasized that ‘this financing arrangement is without prejudice to the decision on the Scales of Contributions to be reached by the Informal Working Group.’

The delegation of Azerbaijan reiterates that the revision of the Scales of Contributions shall take into account all the elements and criteria reflected in Permanent Council Decision No. 1072 of 7 February 2013, as well as the opinions of all participating States. This will help to ensure collective support from all participating States. The delegation of Azerbaijan will continue to be guided by the criteria and elements identified in Permanent Council Decision No. 1072 during the current phase of discussions on the future Scales of Contributions.

I would like to request that this interpretative statement be attached to the Permanent Council decision and to the journal of the day.”