
Chairmanship: Italy**1196th PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Wednesday, 3 October 2018

Opened: 4.40 p.m.

Suspended: 6 p.m.

Resumed: 10.10 a.m. (Thursday, 4 October 2018)

Suspended: 1.05 p.m.

Resumed: 3.05 p.m.

Closed: 5.35 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Azzoni
Ambassador L. Fratini

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

Agenda item 1: PRESENTATION BY THE OSCE SECRETARY GENERAL
OF THE 2019 UNIFIED BUDGET PROPOSAL

Secretary General, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1143/18 OSCE+), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1138/18 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/1170/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1160/18), Austria-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; as well as Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1171/18 Rev.1), Canada, Switzerland (PC.DEL/1154/18 OSCE+), Slovakia (PC.DEL/1124/18 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, United States of America (PC.DEL/1175/18), France, Armenia (PC.DEL/1172/18 OSCE+), Chairperson

Agenda item 2: ADDRESS BY THE UNDER-SECRETARY-GENERAL OF
THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF
COUNTER-TERRORISM, MR. VLADIMIR VORONKOV

Chairperson, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (PC.DEL/1135/18), Austria-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; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1163/18), Kazakhstan, Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1125/18/Corr.1), Turkey (PC.DEL/1169/18 OSCE+), Ukraine, Belarus (PC.DEL/1134/18 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, United States of America (PC.DEL/1126/18), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1156/18 OSCE+), Armenia (PC.DEL/1173/18), Turkmenistan, Tajikistan (PC.DEL/1148/18 OSCE+), Egypt (Partner for Co-operation), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

Agenda item 3: REPORT BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE FOR
DEMOCRATIC INSTITUTIONS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
(ODIHR)

Chairperson, Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR.GAL/60/18), Austria-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 country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1161/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1131/18), Holy See (PC.DEL/1137/18 OSCE+), Norway (PC.DEL/1162/18), Azerbaijan (PC.DEL/1157/18 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, Georgia (PC.DEL/1132/18 OSCE+), Canada (Annex), United States of America (PC.DEL/1136/18), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1150/18), Switzerland, Kyrgyzstan, Armenia (PC.DEL/1174/18), Liechtenstein (PC.DEL/1133/18 OSCE+), Turkmenistan, Slovakia, Iceland, Turkey (PC.DEL/1167/18 OSCE+), Tajikistan (PC.DEL/1146/18/Rev.1 OSCE+), Poland (PC.DEL/1158/18 OSCE+), Austria-European Union

Agenda item 4: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Russia's ongoing aggression against Ukraine and the illegal occupation of Crimea:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/1152/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; 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/1164/18), Canada, Turkey (PC.DEL/1168/18 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/1155/18 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/1139/18)
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1141/18), Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States of America (PC.DEL/1153/18)
- (c) *Second anniversary of the detention of Ukrainian journalist Mr. R. Sushchenko in the Russian Federation:* Austria-European Union (with

the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Canada, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and the United States of America, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1165/18), Ukraine (PC.DEL/1151/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1142/18 OSCE+)

Agenda item 5: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Delivery of “neutral” vehicle number plates resulting from the “5+2” talks as part of the Transdniestrian Settlement Process: Chairperson*
- (b) *2018 OSCE-wide Conference on Cyber/ICT Security, held in Rome on 27 and 28 September 2018 (CIO.GAL/121/18/Rev.3): Chairperson*
- (c) *Chairmanship conference on “Women in the Security Sector: Challenges and Opportunities for the OSCE Area and Beyond”, held on 1 October 2018 (CIO.GAL/140/18): Chairperson*
- (d) *Chairmanship conference on “Digital Transformation: Challenges and Opportunities for Women to Shape Economic Progress in the OSCE Area”, to be held on 30 October 2018 (CIO.INF/63/18): Chairperson*
- (e) *Side-event entitled “Responses to the Reverse Flow of Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs): How the UN and the OSCE jointly address the challenge”, jointly organized by the Permanent Mission of Italy to the United Nations and the OSCE Transnational Threats Department, held in New York on 25 September 2018 on the margins of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly (CIO.GAL/126/18 OSCE+): Chairperson*
- (f) *Third Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) on “Human Rights and Education: Promoting human rights, peaceful coexistence and security in the OSCE region through education”, to be held on 8 and 9 October 2018 (PC.SHDM.GAL/8/18): Chairperson*
- (g) *Fourth OSCE live exercise to fight human trafficking along migration routes, to be held in Vicenza, Italy, from 10 to 14 December 2018 (SEC.GAL/144/18): Chairperson*
- (h) *Meeting of the political directors of OSCE participating States, to be held in Rome on 8 October 2018 (CIO.GAL/145/18): Chairperson*

Agenda item 6: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Participation of the Secretary General in the General Debate of the 73rd session of the United Nations General Assembly from 25 to 28 September 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+)*

- (b) *Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the OSCE and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN WOMEN) on 27 September 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+), Holy See (PC.DEL/1144/18 OSCE+)*
- (c) *Participation of the Director of the Office of the Secretary General in the Second Senior Officials Meeting of the Heart of Asia-Istanbul Process, held on the margins of the 73rd United Nations General Assembly on 28 September 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (d) *Participation of the Director of the Office of the Secretary General in the Ministerial Meeting of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, held in New York on 28 September 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+)*
- (e) *Signing of a memorandum of understanding between the OSCE and the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism on 4 October 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+), Chairperson*
- (f) *Participation of the Secretary General in the high-level conference on “Women, Peace and Security”, held in Stockholm on 2 October 2018: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/148/18 OSCE+) (SEC.GAL/148/18/Add.1 OSCE+)*

Agenda item 7: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Referendum in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia held on 30 September 2018: United States of America (PC.DEL/1140/18), Austria-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania and Montenegro; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (PC.DEL/1166/18), Russian Federation (PC.DEL/1159/18), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/1149/18 OSCE+), Turkey

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 11 October 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



1196th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1196, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CANADA

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to thank Director Gísladóttir for her report on the recently concluded Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM), and take this opportunity to also thank Poland for the gracious hospitality that was once again extended to all delegations in Warsaw. In responding to the Director's assessment of the HDIM, we would like to emphasize two main points:

First, while the failure to arrive at consensus on an agreed HDIM agenda was regrettable, we fully support the Chairmanship's 7 September assessment that "the failure to convene [HDIM] would be a serious omission" and we believe it would have represented a breach of our agreed commitments. The commitment to host the HDIM, which is found in Chapter VI, paragraph 9 of the Helsinki Document and amended and complemented in Permanent Council Decision No. 476, cannot be discarded due to procedural disagreements. Following our experience in Warsaw, we can also say confidently that the lack of an agreed agenda did not significantly affect the realization of the core objectives of the HDIM as a free exchange of views between participating States and civil society organizations. This reinforces our view that the Chairmanship made the correct decision.

Second, as others have already raised today, we noted with disappointment that some civil society organizations did not act in the spirit of co-operation fostered at the OSCE, nor in accordance with key OSCE commitments and principles with regards to combating racism, xenophobia and intolerance. However, and despite some aspects of the meeting that were difficult or challenging, the meeting nevertheless once again reconfirmed its critical importance. The HDIM is an open and collaborative opportunity for civil society to hold participating States to account on their human dimension commitments, and to engage in a constructive dialogue on identifying solutions to resolve these issues. Canada appreciates the hard work, research and preparation done by civil society organizations in the context of the HDIM. Over the two weeks we saw many smaller civil society actors share their views in the only international forum accessible to them. Participating States had the opportunity to engage with these civil society participants, inside and outside the plenary hall. The discussion was not always easy, but having it is important. These types of exchanges represent one of the main benefits of the HDIM. Outside the plenary hall my delegation took part in many constructive and productive exchanges with civil society in which they were able to speak and reach us in ways that are, frankly, often quite difficult in Vienna, Ottawa,

New York, Geneva, or Strasbourg. We also observed civil society making contacts with each other and building valuable connections, demonstrating the value that the HDIM serves as a convenor of civil society from across the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian regions. This is why we remain convinced that while the HDIM is not perfect, it nonetheless represents a unique opportunity to engage on essential matters related to human rights, democracy, and fundamental freedoms. We support the Director's stated intention to fully review the HDIM experience in 2018 to find out what worked and what didn't, and would only caution that in any such assessment the ODIHR must ensure that the essential open nature of the HDIM remains intact.

Mr. Chairperson,

In closing, I would like to express Canada's profound thanks to the ODIHR and to Director Gísladóttir for having hosted a dynamic and rewarding HDIM this year, and to the Chairmanship for ensuring that this part of the OSCE *acquis* was upheld. We look forward to actively engaging in upcoming ODIHR events, which we see as the core of the OSCE's human dimension efforts. We look forward to working constructively with other participating States to ensure that the HDIM continues to be an open and effective forum in which to address our shared OSCE commitments and other international obligations.

I would ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.