

**723rd Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 723, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 857  
REGARDING THE TIME, VENUE, THEME, AGENDA AND  
ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES FOR THE SEVENTEENTH  
ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL FORUM**

19 and 20 January 2009 and 18 to 20 May 2009

The Permanent Council,

Pursuant to paragraphs 21 to 32 of Chapter VII of the Helsinki Document 1992, paragraph 20 of Chapter IX of the Budapest Document 1994, the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension of 2 December 2003, the Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/04 of 7 December 2004, the Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/05 on Migration of 6 December 2005, the Ministerial Council Decision No. 4/06 of 26 July 2006, the Permanent Council Decision No. 743 of 19 October 2006 and the Ministerial Statement on Migration (MC.DOC/6/06) of 5 December 2006,

Taking into account the closing statement by the Chairperson of the Sixteenth Meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum,

Decides that:

1. The theme of the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum will be “Migration management and its linkages with economic, social and environmental policies to the benefit of stability and security in the OSCE region”;
2. The Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum will be held over a period of five days, broken down as follows, and without setting a precedent for future Economic and Environmental Forums:
  - 2.1 On 19 and 20 January 2009 in Vienna;
  - 2.2 From 18 to 20 May 2009 in Athens;
3. The agendas of the two segments of the Forum would focus on the following topics: legal and illegal migration; the linkages and interaction between economic, social and environmental policies and migration; partnerships and inter-State co-operation in the area of

migration management, while overall paying due attention to the cross-dimensional aspects of migration;

4. Moreover, taking into account its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will review the implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension. The review, to be integrated in the second segment of the Economic and Environmental Forum, will address OSCE commitments related to migration and other relevant OSCE commitments referred to in the Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/05 on Migration of 6 December 2005;

5. Discussions of the Forum should benefit from input provided by other OSCE bodies and relevant meetings, including two preparatory conferences outside of Vienna, organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities under the guidance of the 2009 OSCE Chairmanship, and deliberations in various international organizations;

6. Moreover, taking into account its tasks, the Economic and Environmental Forum will discuss ongoing and future activities for the economic and environmental dimension, in particular the work in implementing the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension;

7. The participating States are encouraged to be represented at a high level, by senior officials responsible for shaping international economic and environmental policy in the OSCE area. Participation of representatives from the business and scientific communities as well as other relevant actors of civil society in their delegations would be welcome;

8. As in previous years, the format of the Economic and Environmental Forum should provide for the active involvement of relevant international organizations and encourage open discussions;

9. The following international organizations, international organs, regional groupings and conferences of States are invited to participate in the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum:

Adriatic and Ionic Initiative; Asian Development Bank; Black Sea Economic Co-operation; Central European Initiative; Collective Security Treaty Organization; Commonwealth of Independent States; Council of Europe; Economic Co-operation Organization; Eurasian Economic Community; European Agency for the Management of Operational Cooperation at the External Borders; European Bank for Reconstruction and Development; European Environment Agency; European Investment Bank; Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; International Centre for Migration Policy Development; International Committee of the Red Cross; International Labour Organization; International Fund for Agricultural Development; International Monetary Fund; International Organization for Migration; North Atlantic Treaty Organization; Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development; Organization for Democracy and Economic Development — GUAM; Organization of the Islamic Conference; Secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change; Shanghai Co-operation Organization; United Nations Conference on Trade and Development; United Nations Development Fund for Women; United Nations Development Programme; United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; United Nations Economic Commission for Europe; United Nations

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific; United Nations Environment Programme; United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; United Nations Human Settlement Programme; United Nations Industrial Development Organization; United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime; United Nations Population Fund; United Nations Secretariat of the Convention to Combat Desertification; United Nations Special Programme for the Economies of Central Asia; World Bank Group; World Customs Organization and other relevant organizations;

10. The Partners for Co-operation are invited to participate in the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

11. Upon request by a delegation of an OSCE participating State, regional groupings or expert academics and business representatives may also be invited, as appropriate, to participate in the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

12. Subject to the provisions contained in Chapter IV, paragraphs 15 and 16, of the Helsinki Document 1992, the representatives of non-governmental organizations with relevant experience in the area under discussion are also invited to participate in the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum;

13. In line with the practices established over the past years with regard to meetings of the Economic and Environmental Forum and their preparatory process, the Chairperson of both segments of the Seventeenth Economic and Environmental Forum will present summary conclusions and policy recommendations drawn from the discussions. The Economic and Environmental Committee will further include the conclusions of the Chairperson and the reports of the rapporteurs in its discussions so that the Permanent Council can take the decisions required for appropriate policy translation and follow-up activities.