

Chairmanship: Serbia**1052nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 14 May 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1 p.m.
Resumed: 3.15 p.m.
Closed: 4.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador V. Žugić

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

Agenda item 1: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE OFFICE IN
TAJKISTAN

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Office in Tajikistan (PC.FR/16/15 OSCE+), Latvia-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; and the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, in alignment) (PC.DEL/610/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/605/15), Russian Federation, Turkey, Switzerland (PC.DEL/633/15 OSCE+), Kazakhstan, Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation), Tajikistan (PC.DEL/606/15)

Agenda item 2: REPORT BY THE HEAD OF THE OSCE MISSION TO
MOLDOVA

Chairperson, Head of the OSCE Mission to Moldova (PC.FR/17/15 OSCE+) Latvia-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 Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, in alignment) (PC.DEL/609/15), United States of America

(PC.DEL/604/15), Russian Federation, Turkey (PC.DEL/638/15 OSCE+), Switzerland (PC.DEL/631/15 OSCE+), Ukraine (PC.DEL/626/15 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/636/15 OSCE+), Moldova (PC.DEL/619/05)

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

Chairperson

- (a) *Ongoing aggression against Ukraine and violations of OSCE principles and commitments by the Russian Federation:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/627/15 OSCE+), Latvia-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 Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/612/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/607/15), Turkey (PC.DEL/615/15 OSCE+), Canada (PC.DEL/634/15 OSCE+), Switzerland, Norway (PC.DEL/630/15)
- (b) *Situation in Ukraine and the need to implement the Minsk agreements:* Russian Federation (PC.DEL/616/15), United States of America, Ukraine
- (c) *Abduction and illegal detention of Ukrainian citizens by the Russian Federation:* Ukraine (PC.DEL/618/15 OSCE+), Latvia-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 Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/611/15), Canada (PC.DEL/637/15 OSCE+), United States of America (PC.DEL/623/15), Russian Federation
- (d) *Recent events in Kumanovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia:* Latvia-European Union (with the candidate country Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Monaco and Ukraine, in alignment) (PC.DEL/613/15), Russian Federation, United States of America (PC.DEL/620/15), Switzerland, Albania (PC.DEL/624/15 OSCE+), Turkey (PC.DEL/628/15 OSCE+), OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, United Kingdom, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (PC.DEL/632/15 OSCE+), Chairperson
- (e) *Situation in Baltimore, United States of America:* United States of America (PC.DEL/622/15)
- (f) *Situation in the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan:* Azerbaijan (Annex)

- (g) *The death penalty in the United States of America: Norway (also on behalf of Iceland, Liechtenstein, Mongolia and Switzerland) (PC.DEL/629/15), United States of America (PC.DEL/621/15)*

Agenda item 4: REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE
CHAIRPERSON-IN-OFFICE

- (a) *Visit of the Head of the Serbian OSCE Chairmanship Task Force, Ambassador D. Šahović, and the Special Representative on the Western Balkans, Ambassador G. Stoudmann, to Skopje: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/66/15)*
- (b) *Second preparatory meeting of the 23rd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum on water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through co-operation, held in Belgrade from 11 to 13 May 2015: Chairperson (CIO.GAL/66/15)*

Agenda item 5: REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of a written report of the Secretary General: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (b) *Security situation in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (c) *Security Days event entitled “Building bridges: promoting dialogue to prevent radicalization and violent extremism”, to be held on 21 and 22 May 2015: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (d) *2015 OSCE Asian Conference on the changing global security environment and visions of multilateral security co-operation in Asia, to be held in Seoul on 1 and 2 June 2015: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (e) *Second preparatory meeting of the 23rd OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum on water governance in the OSCE area – increasing security and stability through co-operation, held in Belgrade from 11 to 13 May 2015: Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre*

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Invitation to the meet and greet event with the Eurovision Song Contest band Pertti Kurikan Nimipäivät on 14 May 2015: Finland*
- (b) *Conference on freedom of expression and the media, held in Tirana on 11 and 12 May 2015: Albania (PC.DEL/625/15)*

- (c) *Meeting of the Contact Group with the Asian Partners for Co-operation, to be held on 19 May 2015: Switzerland (PC.DEL/635/15 OSCE+)*

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 21 May 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



1052nd Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1052, Agenda item 3(f)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Chairperson,

Since this is the first time that I took the floor at today's meeting, allow me to convey our sincere condolences to the Macedonian delegation on recent terrorist attacks in Kumanova. We share the pain of the Macedonian people and condemn this act of violence in strongest terms.

The delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the attempts of the Republic of Armenia to promote the visits of third-country nationals to the occupied territories of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which causes legal and criminal liability for the visitors and put their safety and security into serious risk.

The promotion of third-country nationals' visit to the occupied territories represent an element of Armenia's policy of prolonging the status quo in the conflict zone through propagating the illegal regime established therein and generating illicit profit from these visits. In this regard, Armenia spares no effort to encourage nationals of foreign countries, including parliamentarians, mass media representatives and tourists to visit the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan and in almost all such cases, introduces these visits as allegedly reflecting the "growing international reputation and recognition" of this separatist entity. In many cases, persons visiting Armenia were transported to these territories by deception and without knowledge of the final destination.

In this regard, the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan declares that whatever the purpose, reason and circumstances, any visits by third-country nationals to the Nagorno-Karabakh region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan without prior consent of the Azerbaijani authorities constitute a violation of the legislation of Azerbaijan, in particular the Law on the State Border of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Accordingly, third-country nationals visiting the occupied territories of Azerbaijan are included in the list of those, whose entry to Azerbaijan is denied. The list is available at the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan. These visitors run a risk of facing appropriate legal proceedings, including in the form of administrative or criminal prosecution.

Moreover, those visiting the occupied territories of Azerbaijan expose their personal safety and security to serious risk, as despite a formal ceasefire, the Nagorno-Karabakh

region and other occupied territories of Azerbaijan represent a zone of ongoing hostilities, with active terrorist and related organized criminal activity and heavily mined areas.

In the light of the above-mentioned the Government of the Republic of Azerbaijan requests the governments of the OSCE participating States to take effective measures to prevent their nationals from visiting the occupied territories of Azerbaijan, including through issuing special instructions, guidance and travel warnings to that effect at their respective foreign ministries' websites.

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

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.