

Chairmanship: North Macedonia

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL (1450th Plenary Meeting)

1. Date: Wednesday, 15 November 2023 (in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference)

Opened: 9 a.m.

Closed: 9.15 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. J. Bogoevski

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE REVISED PROVISIONAL
EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION FOR 2023

Chairperson

Decision: The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 1465 (PC.DEC/1465) on the revised Provisional Expenditure Authorization for 2023, the text of which is appended to this journal.

United States of America (PC.DEL/1560/23), Spain (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Ukraine) (interpretative statement, see attachment 1 to the decision), Serbia, United Kingdom (also on behalf of Canada) (interpretative statement, see attachment 2 to the decision), Switzerland

Agenda item 2: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

None

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 16 November 2023, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal and via video teleconference



1450th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No.1450, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 1465
REVISED PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION
FOR 2023**

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations,

Reiterating the importance of full transparency and accountability in the functioning of the OSCE,

Reiterating the importance of Permanent Council Decisions No. 486 of 28 June 2002 and No. 553 of 27 June 2003,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.04 – Provisional Expenditure Authorization,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.01(b) – with reference to the authority of the Permanent Council to take decisions on all elements of the budget,

Recalling Permanent Council Decision No. 1461 (PC.DEC/1461/Corr.1) of 12 September 2023 on the revised provisional expenditure authorization for 2023,

Taking note of the ODIHR 2023 Revision of Provisional Expenditure Authorization Request, as contained in PC.ACMF/63/23,

Acknowledging that the discussions on the 2023 Unified Budget are still ongoing and without prejudice to the outcome of these discussions,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the 1992 Helsinki Summit Document, as well as Permanent Council Decisions No. 241 (1998), No. 428 (2001) and No. 476 (2002), setting the mandate and modalities for the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting,

Underlying that this decision does not establish any precedent for the budget or organization of future Human Dimension Implementation Meetings,

Approves the revised provisional expenditure authorization for 2023 as set forth in the annex, without setting a precedent.

**REVISED PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION
FOR 2023**

Programme	Revised Provisional Expenditure Authorization (PC.DEC/1461/Corr.1)	Proposed transfer Fin. Reg. 3.02 (a)(iv)	Proposed Total Revised Expenditure Authorization
Direction and Policy	1,294,600		1,294,600
Fund Administration Unit	2,970,700		2,970,700
Human Dimension			
Meetings	363,050	(170,000)	193,050
Democratization	1,580,300		1,580,300
Human Rights	1,167,200		1,167,200
Elections	6,966,950	170,000	7,136,950
Tolerance and Non-Discrimination	1,301,400		1,301,400
Roma and Sinti Issues	<u>515,700</u>		<u>515,700</u>
TOTAL	16,159,900	-	16,159,900
Augmentations	<u>234,100</u>	-	<u>234,100</u>
TOTAL ODIHR RESOURCES	<u>16,394,000</u>	-	<u>16,394,000</u>

**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 Spain (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Ukraine):

“The European Union Member States reiterate their full support to the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR)’s election observation work. We emphasize that ODIHR must be sufficiently resourced and staffed to fulfil its mandate. This includes undertaking all election observation requests from the OSCE participating States, be it expected or unexpected.

We acknowledge that an additional allocation is required in order to observe the upcoming early parliamentary elections in the Republic of Serbia in line with the recommendations of the Needs Assessment Mission as stated in the report of 16–20 October 2023.

Therefore, without setting a precedent, the European Union Member States support the proposal to transfer part of the identified savings from the Human Dimension Meetings Programme in the amount of 170,000 euros. The European Union Member States underline that this decision will have no impact on the Unified Budget 2024, as regards the resource allocation to the mandated Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

The European Union Member States regret that it was not possible to utilize the Human Dimension Meetings Programme for its intended purpose due to one participating State again blocking consensus on the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM). The European Union fully supported the draft decisions on HDIM as presented by the Chairmanship and stood ready to join consensus. We emphasize that HDIM is a mandated event and remains a crucial and unique platform for engaging with civil society, for listening to independent voices and for holding our governments accountable for the implementation of our OSCE commitments. This decision does not establish any precedent for the budget or organization of future Human Dimension Implementation Meetings.

The European Union Member States reiterate their full support for the mandate and autonomy of ODIHR. ODIHR's activities across its entire mandate are essential to promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms in the OSCE area. We call on all participating States to ensure that ODIHR receives the necessary funds.”

PC.DEC/1465
15 November 2023
Attachment 2

Original: ENGLISH

**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 United Kingdom (also on behalf of Canada):

“Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

In connection with the Permanent Council decision just adopted on the provisional expenditure authorization, Canada and my own country, the United Kingdom, would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

As stated on numerous occasions, Canada and the United Kingdom would like to reiterate the importance of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights being adequately funded and able to fulfil its mandate and responsibilities, including for the important work of election observation missions.

Canada and the United Kingdom are pleased to join consensus on the proposal and decision, on the basis of the language included in the decision underlining that this “does not establish any precedent for the budget or organization of future Human Dimension Implementation Meetings”.

I would like to request that this statement be attached to the decision as adopted and to the journal of the day’s special Permanent Council.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”