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**Belgian Chairmanship****643rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE COUNCIL**

1. Date: Thursday, 21 December 2006

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Closed: 10.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. B. de Crombrughe

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Permanent Council, expressed condolences to Turkmenistan in connection with the death of H.E. Saparmurat Niyazov, the President of Turkmenistan. The Permanent Council then observed a minute of silence.

The Chairperson also informed the Permanent Council that the Chairman-in-Office, in a letter issued on 20 December 2006 (see annex 1 to this journal), had announced the adoption, through a silence procedure, of Ministerial Council Decision No. 21/06 on the time and place of the next meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council (see MC.DEC/21/06, the text of which is appended to this journal).

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

Agenda item 1: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

- (a) *Freedom of the media in Moldova:* United States of America  
(PC.DEL/1176/06), Moldova
- (b) *Current situation in Kyrgyzstan:* Kyrgyzstan

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF  
THE OSCE PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR IN UKRAINE

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 770 (PC.DEC/770), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.

Agenda item 3:           DECISION ON THE EXTENSION OF THE MANDATE OF  
                                  THE OSCE CENTRE IN ALMATY

Chairperson, United States of America, Kazakhstan

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 771 (PC.DEC/771), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the extension of the mandate of the OSCE Centre in Almaty.

United States of America (Annex 2), Kazakhstan, United Kingdom,  
Chairperson

Agenda item 4:           DECISION ON THE 2007 OSCE-MONGOLIA  
                                  CONFERENCE

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 772 (PC.DEC/772), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the 2007 OSCE-Mongolia Conference.

Chairperson

Agenda item 5:           DECISION ON THE DATES OF THE 2007 OSCE  
                                  WORKSHOP ON ENHANCING LEGAL CO-OPERATION  
                                  IN CRIMINAL MATTERS TO COUNTER TERRORISM

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 773 (PC.DEC/773), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the dates of the 2007 OSCE Workshop on Enhancing Legal Co-operation in Criminal Matters to Counter Terrorism.

Agenda item 6:           DECISION ON THE REVISION OF THE  
                                  WALLNERSTRASSE FUND

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Permanent Council adopted Decision No. 774 (PC.DEC/774), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the revision of the Wallnerstrasse Fund.

Agenda item 7:           REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE  
                                  CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE

*Letter from the Chairman-in-Office to the UN Secretary-General regarding the report by the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office on the Conflict Dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference on fires affecting areas close to the line of contact:*  
Chairperson

Agenda item 8:           REPORT OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL

*Next steps in the implementation of Performance-Based Programme Budgeting:*  
Secretary General

Agenda item 9:           ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a)    *Parliamentary elections in Finland, to be held on 18 March 2007:* Finland  
(PC.DEL/1175/06)
- (b)    *General elections in Serbia, to be held on 21 January 2007:* Serbia
- (c)    *Training session for police officers from the OSCE area on dealing with hate crimes, held in Paris on from 11 to 13 December 2006:* France  
(PC.DEL/1173/06/Corr.1 OSCE+)
- (d)    *Farewell to the Belgian Chairmanship:* Armenia, Belgium (CIO.GAL/228/06 OSCE+), Spain

4.    Next meeting:

To be announced



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

PC.JOUR/643  
21 December 2006  
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

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**643rd Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 643, Point 2

## **LETTER OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE**

Brussels, 20 December 2006

Dear colleague,

In my capacity as OSCE Chairman-in-Office, I have the honour of informing you that the period of silence on the draft decision of the Ministerial Council on the time and place of the next meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council (MC.DD/14/06 of 14 November 2006), expiring on Wednesday, 20 December 2006, at 12 noon CET, has not been broken.

The decision is therefore effective as of today and will be attached to the journal of the Fifteenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council and to the journal of the next meeting of the Permanent Council on 21 December 2006.

Those participating States that intend to exercise their right to duly register an interpretative statement or a formal reservation under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE are invited to do so through their OSCE delegations at the above-mentioned meeting of the Permanent Council.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. Karel De Gucht

To the Ministers for Foreign Affairs  
of the OSCE participating States



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

PC.JOUR/643  
21 December 2006  
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

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**643rd Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 643, Agenda item 3

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are disappointed that, so soon after the agreement on commitments made at the Brussels OSCE Ministerial Council, Kazakhstan could not agree to a one-year mandate. The United States is also disappointed that Kazakhstan did not take this opportunity to demonstrate its interest in a leadership role as enunciated in the decision on “The Future OSCE Chairmanship”, by fulfilling the recent Brussels commitment to uphold OSCE norms and values.

We request a record of this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.