

Decisions of the Fourth Meeting of the Council: extract concerning CSCE structures and operations (Rome, 1 December 1993)

Caption: At its fourth meeting, held in Rome from 30 November to 1 December 1993, the Council of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) establishes the CSCE Permanent Committee in Vienna.

Source: Fourth Meeting of the Council, Rome 1993. Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting. [ON-LINE]. [s.l.]: Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, [14.08.2003]. Available on <http://www.osce.org/docs/english/1990-1999/mcs/4rome93e.pdf>.

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Publication date: 23/10/2012

Fourth Meeting of the Council of the Conference for Security and Co-operation in Europe (Rome, 30 November - 1 December 1993)

Decisions of the Rome Council Meeting

[...]

VII. CSCE structures and operations

1. The Ministers reaffirmed that significant enhancement of the political effectiveness and operational capability of the CSCE is critical to achieving the goals they have defined for it.
2. They recalled the two mutually supporting forms of action by the CSCE: those joint political decisions taken in accordance with consensus rules and direct action through agreed mechanisms activated by a limited number of participating States.
3. To ensure improved capabilities for day-to-day operational tasks of the CSCE, the Ministers created a permanent body for political consultations and decision-making in Vienna, the Permanent Committee of the CSCE.
4. The Ministers decided that the Permanent Committee should review the relevance and operation of existing mechanisms with a view to increasing their effectiveness.
5. The Ministers also endorsed the decision to establish a CSCE Secretariat in Vienna as an important step towards further efficiency in administrative and secretariat support services. Further evolution of CSCE's operational capabilities will be based on the overriding objective of a non-bureaucratic, cost-efficient and flexible administrative structure which can be adapted to changing tasks.
6. The Ministers considered also problems which have arisen because of a shortage of economic and human resources for CSCE operations, especially preventive diplomacy missions. They decided that the question of providing adequate resources, in the form of expertise as well as of finance, for the CSCE to fulfil its promise will be vigorously pursued.
7. Institutional arrangements for political consultation and decision-making.
 - 7.1 In order to enhance the capacity of the CSCE to respond to challenges in the CSCE area, the Ministers decided to create a permanent body consisting of representatives of the participating States for political consultations and decision-making in Vienna. The new body will be responsible for the day-to-day operational tasks of the CSCE under the chairmanship of the Chairman-in-Office and will meet under the name of the Permanent Committee of the CSCE. The Permanent Committee will conduct comprehensive and regular consultations and, when the CSO is not in session, take decisions on all issues pertinent to the CSCE. The Permanent Committee will be responsible to the CSO, and undertake preliminary discussion of items suggested for the agenda of the CSO. The CSO will continue to lay down political guidelines and take key decisions between Council meetings.
 - 7.2 With a view to strengthening the interrelation and complementarity of the CSCE decision-making process in the fields of arms control, disarmament and confidence and security-building, security co-operation and conflict prevention, the Ministers decided to dissolve the Consultative Committee of the Conflict Prevention Centre as set up by the Paris supplementary document and transfer its competence to the Permanent Committee and the Forum for Security Co-operation in the following way:
 - 7.3 The Permanent Committee will, in addition to the mandate as above, hold the meetings of the participating States which may be convened under the mechanism on unusual military activities.
 - 7.4 The Forum for Security Co-operation will, in addition to current tasks

- assume responsibility for the implementation of CSBMs,
- prepare seminars on military doctrine and such other seminars as may be agreed by the participating States,
- hold the annual implementation assessment meetings,
- provide the forum for discussion and clarification, as necessary, of information exchanged under agreed CSBMs.

8. CSCE Secretariat

The Ministers endorsed the decision by the CSO to establish a CSCE Secretariat in Vienna with an office in Prague. The Secretariat will include departments for conference services, administration and budget, Chairman-in-Office support and the Conflict Prevention Centre.

9. Ensuring necessary resources and expertise for the CSCE

9.1 The Ministers agreed that additional efforts must be undertaken to provide financial resources and draw on available expertise, including that provided through non-governmental sources.

9.2 They also expressed concern about continued non-payment of assessed contributions by a large number of participating States. They noted that a co-operative undertaking such as the CSCE cannot flourish without mutual support by all participants.

9.3 The Ministers further pledged to make new efforts to identify suitable candidates for a roster to serve on CSCE missions in order to be able to make such candidates available rapidly.

9.4 Recalling the ministerial decision at Stockholm on the need to identify new sources of funding, the Ministers noted the importance of ensuring sufficient resources for CSCE operations, especially those in the field.

They instructed the Permanent Committee to submit recommendations to the CSO for further action as soon as possible.

10. Staffing arrangements for the CSCE Institutions

The Ministers have taken note with appreciation of the report of the ad hoc group on efficient management of CSCE resources, approved by the 23rd CSO Meeting. Regarding recruitment and appointment for senior CSCE positions, the Ministers took the following decisions:

- Candidates for the posts of Secretary General, High Commissioner on National Minorities and director of ODIHR will be nominated by participating States for appointment by the Council.
- Positions as heads of the departments within the CSCE Secretariat will be subject to open competition. These positions will be appointed by the Chairman-in-Office in consultation with the Secretary General. Other positions in the CSCE Secretariat will be appointed by the Secretary General, taking into account equal opportunity requirements and the diversity of the CSCE community.
- The Director of the ODIHR and the HCNM will appoint their respective senior staff in consultation with the Secretary General taking into account equal opportunity requirements and the diversity of the CSCE community.
- All CSCE positions will be budgeted for. Whenever possible participating States may consider seconding their nationals who have been successful in obtaining positions.

11. The Ministers have taken note with appreciation of the report of the ad hoc Group of Legal and Other Experts. The Ministers adopted a decision on legal capacity and privileges and immunities that recommends implementation of the following three basic elements (CSCE/4-C/Dec.2):

- The CSCE participating States will, subject to their constitutional, legislative and related requirements, confer legal capacity on CSCE institutions in accordance with the provisions adopted by the Ministers;
- The CSCE participating States will, subject to their constitutional, legislative and related requirements, confer privileges and immunities on CSCE institutions, permanent missions of the participating States, representatives of participating States, CSCE officials and members of CSCE missions in accordance with the provisions adopted by the Ministers;
- The CSCE may issue CSCE Identity Cards in accordance with the form adopted by the Ministers.

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