

Special Representative

OSCE's parlamentariske Forsamling
OSCE alm. del - Bilag 9
Offentligt

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

PC Brief Week 43, 2005

This week, meetings of the PC, the Advisory Committee for Management and Finance and the Working Group on Enhancing the Effectiveness of the OSCE (Reform Group), took place. The Permanent Council did not take any decisions, but heard addresses by the Prime Minister of Georgia, H.E. Zurab Nogaideli, on a "South Ossetia Conflict Resolution Plan", and by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lithuania, H.E. Antanas Valionis, as well as the reports by the Head of Missions in Bishkek and in Skopje.

The Georgian government's major objectives and steps for 2005 are:

- Introduction of a new negotiating format for South Ossetia with participation of OSCE, EU, US and Russia;
- Ensure support for settlement plan at Ljubljana OSCE Ministerial Council in Dec. 2005;
- Adoption of a law on restitution;
- Encourage direct contacts with Ossetian NGO's;
- Ensure direct Georgian-South Ossetian dialogue through regular meetings with South Ossetian leaders and
- Promote political settlement based on the Baden Package, which respects the territorial integrity of Georgia.

The plan of action for 2006 is as according to the Georgian PM:

- To start talks in frames of a new negotiating format;
- Beginning of talks over border control, including on Roki Tunnel;
- Ensure demilitarization process in the region;
- Ensure implementation of restitution law;
- Creation of a joint rehabilitation fund with participation of OSCE, EU, US Russia etc.
- Beginning of talks to create free trade zone the region;
- Distribute pensions in the region;
- Establish a joint commission to begin investigation of crimes committed during 1991-92 conflict;
- Reinforce Ossetian culture through various celebrations and public holidays;
- Conclude agreement on South Ossetia's status;
- Create joint body to secure implementation of the agreement.

The debate on the address of the Lithuanian Foreign Minister, who – among other things – lobbied for support of Lithuania's bid for the Chairmanship of 2010, turned into a reform debate, touching on points like the strengthening of the role of the Secretary General, ODIHR's achievements, the need for more political dialogue in the Permanent Council, transparency of the procedures, multi-dimensionality, and more.

This week's Reform group session discussed the same two papers as last week, and also heard a presentation by the Secretary General on the reform of the Secretariat. On the issue of a specific reference to the Parliamentary Assembly's recommendations in the first-mentioned paper, I pleaded again for changing the current text. Nobody opposed an explicit reference openly, some, including the Chair, supported my request.



Andreas Nothelle
Ambassador
October 31, 2005