

MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Vienna

Thursday 21 February 2008

9.00 a.m.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was opened at 9.07 a.m. with Mr Göran LENNMARKER (Sweden), President of OSCE PA, in the Chair.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The draft agenda was adopted.

3. Remarks by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Göran Lennmarker (Sweden)

The PRESIDENT addressed the Standing Committee.

4. Report by the Treasurer

Mr RAIDEL (Germany) presented the Treasurer's report to the Standing Committee, including the auditor's report on the financial year from 1 October 2006 to 30 September 2007.

5. Address by the Secretary General of OSCE

Mr Marc PERRIN DE BRICHAMBAUT, Secretary General of the OSCE, addressed the Standing Committee.

The PRESIDENT invited the Secretary General to respond to questions.

Speakers: Mr BILORUS (Ukraine), Mr KOZLOVSKY (Russia), Mr BLÖNDAL (Iceland), Mr SOARES (Portugal), Mrs LIZIN (Belgium), Ms MURADOVA (Azerbaijan).

The Secretary General responded to the questions.

6. **Report by the Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly**

Mr Spencer OLIVER (Secretary General of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly) presented his report.

7. **Other Reports**

Election monitoring

Ukraine, September 2007

Ms Tone TINGSGÅRD reported on the elections.

Russian Duma, December 2007

The President reported on the elections.

Kyrgyzstan, December 2007

Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN reported on the elections.

Speakers: Ms IBRAIMOVA (Kyrgyzstan), Mr KILJUNEN (Finland), Mr BILORUS (Ukraine).

Georgia, January 2008

Mr Alcee HASTINGS reported on the elections.

Speakers: Ms FERRIER (Netherlands), Ms BURJANADZE (Georgia), Mr NIINISTO (Finland).

Armenia, February 2008

Ms Anne-Marie LIZIN reported on the elections.

Speakers: Mr SAFARYAN (Armenia), the President, Mr WIDMER (Switzerland), Mr CALLELY (Ireland).

Forthcoming elections:

The PRESIDENT announced that the OSCE PA would be observing elections in:

Georgia (May 2008)

Ad Hoc Committees

Report of the Parliamentary Team on Moldova

Mr De ROHAN reported on the activities of the Committee.

Report of the Working Group on Belarus

Ms Uta ZAPF reported on the activities of the Group.

Special Representatives

Mr Riccardo MIGLIORI (Italy) reported on behalf of Mr VIZZINI, Special Representative for the Fight on Transnational Organized Crime.

Ms Anne-Marie LIZIN, Special Representative on Guantanamo, reported on her work.

Speaker: Mr CARDIN (United States of America).

Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN, Special Representative on Central Asia, reported on his work.

Mr Alcee HASTINGS, Special Representative on the Mediterranean, reported on his work.

Mr Petur BLÖNDAL, Special Representative on the OSCE Budget, reported on his work.

Mr Roberto BATTELLI, Special Representative on South-Eastern Europe, reported on his work.

Ms Hilda SOLIS, Special Representative on Migration, reported on her work.

8. Other business

Debates on Kosovo and Missile Defence: the CFE Treaty

The PRESIDENT said that Members of the Bureau at their meeting in December had given a positive reception to his proposal to hold debates on Kosovo and Missile Defence: the CFE Treaty, which he accordingly recommended to the Standing Committee for its agreement.

The proposal to hold debates on Kosovo and Missile Defence: the CFE Treaty in the joint meeting of the three general committees on Friday 22 February 2008 was agreed to.

Members wishing to speak in the debate were asked to register their names with the International Secretariat before 10:00 a.m. on Friday 22 February 2008.

First Committee Rapporteur

The President informed the Standing Committee that Mr Arminas LYDEKA (Lithuania), the Rapporteur of the First General Committee, had ceased to be a member of the Lithuanian Delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, and so the post of Rapporteur for the Committee was now vacant.

In accordance with Rule 35.5, in the event of a vacancy in the Bureau of a General Committee arising during the course of the year, the Standing Committee may appoint a substitute. The PRESIDENT therefore proposed that Mr Wolfgang GROSSRUCK, the previous Rapporteur of the Committee, be appointed as rapporteur until a new Rapporteur is elected at the end of the Annual Session in Astana. The proposal was agreed to.

9. Reports on preparations for future OSCE PA meetings in 2008

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Bureau Meeting* would be held in *Copenhagen on April 13-14, 2008*.

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Seventeenth Annual Session* would be held in *Astana from 29 June to 3 July 2008*.

Speaker: Mr DOSMANBETOV (Kazakhstan).

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Fall Meetings* would be held in *Toronto from 18 to 21 September*.

Speaker: Mr GRAFSTEIN (Canada).

The PRESIDENT proposed that the *Annual Session for 2009* be held in *Vilnius from 29 June to 3 July 2009*. The proposal was agreed to.

The PRESIDENT announced that Norway had proposed that the Annual Session for 2010 be held in Oslo. The proposal was agreed to.

Speaker: Mr HOEGLUND (Norway), Mr RUMMO (Estonia).

10. Close of meeting

The PRESIDENT closed the meeting at 11.47 a.m.