

Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

Permanent Council Brief Weeks 50-51, 2009

During the last regular week of the PC, part of the ambassadors participated in the Mediterranean Conference in Cairo, where the PA was represented by a large delegation. In spite of this conference, meetings of the PC, the FSC, the Contact Groups with the Partners, the PrepCom, the ACMF, and other committees, took place during these two weeks, as well as another Corfu Meeting and a symposium on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the (current version of) the Vienna Document on Confidence Building measures.

The budget for 2010 has not yet been approved, when this report was written, but the approval might be imminent, since most of the outstanding issues have been solved. The PC has extended the mandates of all Field Presences, with the exception of the Office in Minsk. Belarus is delaying the appointment of a new Head of Office, probably because they are very satisfied with the performance of the acting Head. The Office is currently taken care of by the Deputy Head of Mission who is from Kazakhstan. The Chairmanship has appointed Maria Giammarinaro (Italy), a judge dealing in the EU Commission with cases of organized crime, as new Special Representative for the Combat against Trafficking in Human Beings to succeed Eva Biaudet. A successor for Miklos Haraszti has not yet been found.

The incoming Kazakh Chairmanship has also (re-)appointed a long list of Special Representatives and Personal Envoys. They comprise two active PA members (Adil Akhmetov and Kimmo Kiljunen) as well as a former (Jesús López-Medel). Other appointments included the Chairs of the three committees of the PC for the next year, namely the ambassadors of Germany (1st), Belarus (2nd) and Portugal (3rd).

The PC will now enter in its Winter Recess. The first regular meeting will take place on January 14, 2010, with the opening of the Kazakh Chairmanship. It will be marked by insecurities about how the Lisbon Treaty will be implemented in practice. Spain as incoming EU Chairmanship is ready to continue the same way as its predecessors, while the EU-Delegation (former Commission) is trying to find out how to cope with the new role it is supposed to take on. This affects half of the OSCE, and the solution of these problems will therefore be crucial for the capacity of the OSCE to tackle problems more effectively, as the ministers promised in the Ministerial Council Decision on the future of the Corfu Process.



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Ambassador
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