

MINUTES
STANDING COMMITTEE
OF THE OSCE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Vienna

Friday 24 February 2012

9.00 a.m.

1. **Call to Order**

The meeting was opened at 9.11 a.m. with Mr. Petros EFTHYMIU (Greece), President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair.

2. **Adoption of the Agenda**

The draft agenda was adopted.

3. **Report by the President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Petros Efthymiou (Greece)**

The PRESIDENT addressed the Standing Committee.

4. **Report by the Treasurer of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Mr. Roberto Battelli (Slovenia)**

Mr. Roberto BATTELLI (Slovenia) presented the Treasurer's Report to the Standing Committee, including the Auditors' Report on the financial year from 1 October 2010 to 30 September 2011.

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

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

The PRESIDENT invited the Secretary General to respond to questions.

Speakers: Sir Peter BOTTOMLEY (United Kingdom); Mr. CORUZ (Netherlands).

The Secretary General responded to the questions.

6. Other Reports

Election Observation Activities

Kazakhstan, 15 January 2012

Speaker: Mr. Kairat MAMI (Kazakhstan).

Mr. SOARES (Portugal) reported on the elections.

Kyrgyzstan, 31 October 2011

Mrs. Walburga HABSBURG DOUGLAS (Sweden) reported on the elections.

Speakers: Ms. AKNAZAROVA (Kyrgyzstan); Mr DE DONNEA (Belgium).

Tunisia, 24 October 2011

Mr. Riccardo MIGLIORI (Italy) reported on the elections.

Russia, 4 December 2011

The PRESIDENT reported on the elections.

The Standing Committee discussed the decision not to monitor the Russian Presidential elections.

Speakers: Mr. KULAKOV (Russian Federation); Sir Peter BOTTOMLEY (United Kingdom); Mr. KANERVA (Finland); Mr. LLOYD (United Kingdom); Ms. HABSBURG DOUGLAS (Sweden); Ms. POZUELO (Spain); Mr DE DONNEA (Belgium); Mr. WELLMANN (Germany); Mr. GROSSRUCK (Austria); Mr. GARDETTO (Monaco); Sir Peter BOTTOMLEY (United Kingdom); the Secretary General; Mr. CORUZ (Netherlands).

The PRESIDENT considered it important to respond to the Standing Committee's expression of opinion. He asked Members of the Standing Committee to indicate whether they would support, in principle, a small observation mission to the Russian Presidential elections. A substantial majority supported the sending of a small observation mission.

Forthcoming Elections

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

Speaker: Mr. Aram SAFARYAN (Armenia).

Ad Hoc Committees

The PRESIDENT announced that questions on the working groups would be taken after Reports had been made.

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Belarus

Mr. Christian HOLM (Sweden) reported on behalf of Ms. Uta ZAPF (Germany) on the activities of the Group.

Report of the Parliamentary Team on Moldova

Mrs. Walburga HABSBURG DOUGLAS (Sweden) reported on the activities of the Team.

Speakers: Mr. Christopher SMITH (United States); Mr. Viktor GUMINSKY (Belarus); Mr. Christian HOLM (Sweden); Mr. Matteo MECACCI (Italy); Mr. Coskun CORUZ (Netherlands).

Special Representatives

Mr. Michel VOISIN (France), Special Representative on Afghanistan, reported on his work.

Ms. Kathleen FERRIER (Netherlands), Special Representative on Migration, reported on her work.

Mr. João SOARES (Portugal), Special Representative on the South Caucasus, reported on his work.

Mr. Christopher SMITH (United States), Special Representative on Human Trafficking, reported on his work.

7. Reports on Preparations for Future OSCE PA Meetings in 2012

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Bureau* would be held in *Copenhagen on 22 and 23 April 2012*.

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Economic Conference* would be held in *Batumi, Georgia on 11 to 14 May 2012*.

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Twenty-first Annual Session* would be held in *Monaco from 5 -- 9 July 2012*.

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Bureau* would be held in *Dublin, Ireland on 5 December 2012*.

The PRESIDENT announced that the *Twenty-second Annual Session* would be held in *Turkey from 29 June to 3 July 2012*.

Speakers: Mr. Emin ONEN (Turkey)

Ms. Bahar MURADOVA (Azerbaijan) invited the OSCE PA to hold a conference in Baku in the Spring of 2014.

8. Other Business

Speaker: Mr. Michel VOISIN (France) proposed that the President make a statement on the situation in Syria.

9. Close of Meeting

The PRESIDENT closed the meeting at 12.06 p.m.