

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *PC Brief Week 18, 2014*

This week, because of the holiday (May 1<sup>st</sup>), was another week with initially almost no meetings scheduled. However, in the end, because of the Ukrainian crisis, the ongoing budget negotiations and other circumstances, there were three special PC meetings, one again jointly with the FSC, a meeting of the Ambassadorial Working Group on Helsinki+40, as well as meetings of the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) and the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance (ACMF) during the first three days of the week. Marc Carillet represented the PA in all meetings, because I was participating in the Regional (South East Europe) OSCE Heads of Missions Meeting (RHoMM) in Montenegro, together with the Special Representative on South East Europe, Roberto Battelli. Roberto Montella and Francesco Pagani (together with Firuze Demir) staffed the PA's election observation mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

Despite the high number of meetings, the discussions were as unproductive as in the past weeks, with the exception of two formal PC decisions recommending to the ministers the appointment, through the silence procedure, of Michael Link as successor to ODIHR Director Lenarcic and the extension of the mandate of OSCE Secretary General Lamberto Zannier for another three years. Russia again did not participate in the Vienna Document (VD) triggered discussions of the joint PC-FSC meeting. A Human Dimension Seminar is planned to take place on 12-14th of May in Warsaw, but there is still no consensus of the agenda. Marc Carillet briefed the PC on the PA's activities in Ukraine and the Helsinki+40 Working Group on the PA's project.

Despite some optimistic signals, the 2014 OSCE Budget also still lacks consensus. This endangers OSCE field work. In addition, as we learnt at the RHoMM, the current requirement for governments to deviate funds to the very costly Special Monitoring Mission on Ukraine (SMM) threatens the project work of the missions in the region, which rely heavily on extra-budgetary funds.

In this context it is notable that – while 4,29 Million Euros had been pledged until the beginning of the week, out of the almost 23 Million necessary for deployment of a full mission with 500 observers - only 1.6 million Euros had at that point actually been received on the OSCE bank account. At the same time, 142 monitors and 17 core staff were already deployed in Ukraine. Also this will have an impact on the work in the field, because the missions have not only dispatched their staff to Ukraine during the first immediate response phase of the SMM deployment and are providing the SMM with material resources, but some experienced key staff from the missions moved permanently to the SMM, leaving the missions with vacancies that they urgently need to fill.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
May 5, 2014