

## Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

### *PC Brief Week 6/7, 2017*

During the past two weeks there have been meetings by the Permanent Council (PC) and the Forum for Security Cooperation (FSC). A number of committees and other informal bodies and gatherings have held meetings, including a meeting of the Informal working group on Legal Personality as well as a Conference on Cyber Security for Critical Infrastructure.

The PC decided on the date and venue of the 2017 OSCE Asian Conference (Berlin 19/20 June 2017) of the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC – 27-29 June 2017 in Vienna). Other points discussed include regular reports and the usual items under “Current Issues”. In regards to the PA’s committee, two out of three of the PC Committees Chairs reported on their good cooperation with the PA and announced their appearance during the PA Winter Meeting. I delivered the usual statement regarding the next week’s PA meeting, explaining some of the organizational arrangements for this meeting. The interest in this meeting is high, resulting in a number of information meetings I had with colleagues.

The situation regarding the extension of the mandate of the field presences in Armenia and Tajikistan remains unchanged, as does the absence of an approved budget for the current year 2017. Very soon the extension of the budget for the Special Monitoring Mission (SMM) to Ukraine needs to be approved, which will further burden the negotiations.

The deadline for nominations of candidates for the posts of Secretary General (SG) and ODIHR Director expired on Friday. There are five candidates for SG (PA President Emeritus Ilkka Kanerva - Finland -, and Ambassadors Alena Kupchyna - Belarus -, Štefan Füle - Czech Republic -, Erlan Idrissov - Kazakhstan -, and Thomas Greminger – Switzerland), and three candidates for ODIHR Director (PA Vice President Kent Härstedt – Sweden -, Ingibjorg Gísladóttir – Iceland -, Goran Svilanović – Serbia). As happened sometimes in the past, a group of ambassadors will assist the Austrian Chairmanship in the selection process. There has been no progress on the overdue selection processes for the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Representative on Freedom of the Media.

The FSC changed the Date of the Global Exchange of Military Information in 2017 and approved the Agenda, Timetable and Modalities for the sixth Annual Discussion on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Political-Military Aspects of Security (14 June 2017, Vienna).

I also intensively exchanged ideas regarding PA-UN cooperation with the senior local UN officer dealing with the OSCE, conducted regular consultations with the Head of the Office of the OSCE Secretary General, Amb. Bekkers, and met with PA SG Montella.



Andreas Nothelle  
Ambassador  
February 20, 2017