



314th Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 397
OSCE CENTRE IN TASHKENT**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling its Decisions Nos. 28 of 16 March 1995, 118 of 9 May 1996, and 231 of 11 June 1998,

Taking into account the expanded presence of the OSCE in Central Asia in line with Decisions Nos. 243, 244, 245, all of 23 July 1998,

Recognizing the change of the focus of the activities of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia (CALO), and

Welcoming the willingness of the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan to continue its intensive co-operation with the OSCE,

Decides:

1. To change the name of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia to the OSCE Centre in Tashkent and to change the title of Head of the OSCE Liaison Office in Central Asia to Head of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent;
2. To give the OSCE Centre in Tashkent the following tasks:
 - Given the OSCE's role as primary instrument for early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation, to promote the implementation of OSCE principles and commitments as well as the co-operation of the Republic of Uzbekistan within the OSCE framework;
 - To facilitate contacts and promote information exchange with the Chairman-in-Office, OSCE bodies and the OSCE participating States in Central Asia as well as co-operation with international organizations and institutions;
 - To maintain contacts with local authorities, universities, research institutions and non-governmental organizations;

- To assist in arranging OSCE events and activities, including visits by OSCE delegations;
 - To liaise and co-operate closely with the OSCE presences in the region;
 - To perform tasks deemed appropriate by the Chairman-in-Office or other OSCE institutions and agreed on between the Republic of Uzbekistan and the OSCE;
3. To hold annual reviews of the implementation of this mandate and the activities of the Centre. The review will be undertaken by the Permanent Council;
4. The formal basis for the operation of the OSCE Centre in Tashkent will, *mutatis mutandis*, be the Memorandum of Understanding signed on 12 July 1995 between the Government of Uzbekistan and the Secretary General of the OSCE and the Permanent Council decisions referred to above. The present premises and assets of the CALO will be carried over to the Centre in Tashkent.