

To: All delegations of the OSCE participating States

Subject: Silence procedure regarding the draft Ministerial Council decision on the periods of service of the OSCE Secretary General

Please find attached the letter of the Chairman-in-Office, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, H.E. Alexander Stubb, announcing the adoption of the Ministerial Council decision on the periods of service of the OSCE Secretary General (MC.DEC/3/08, to be issued on 23 October 2008).

The Chairmanship would kindly request delegations to forward this letter to their Ministers for Foreign Affairs in due time.



Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland
and Chairman-in-Office of the OSCE,
Alexander Stubb

Helsinki, 22 October 2008

Dear colleague,

In my capacity as OSCE Chairman-in-Office, I have the honour of informing you that the period of silence on the draft decision of the Ministerial Council on the periods of service of the OSCE Secretary General (MC.DD/3/08), expiring on 22 October 2008, at noon CET, has not been broken.

The decision is therefore effective as of today and will be attached to the journal of the Sixteenth Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council and to the journal of the next meeting of the Permanent Council on 23 October 2008.

Those participating States that intend to exercise their right to duly register an interpretative statement or a formal reservation under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE are invited to do so through their OSCE delegations at the above-mentioned meeting of the Permanent Council.

Yours sincerely,

(Mr.) Alexander Stubb

TO THE MINISTERS FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE OSCE PARTICIPATING STATES