

**1444th Plenary Meeting**  
PC Journal No. 1444, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1462  
ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION  
FOR THE CONFERENCE AND LANGUAGE SERVICES  
PROGRAMME FOR 2023**

The Permanent Council,

Acting in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Financial Regulations,

Reiterating the importance of full transparency and accountability in the functioning of the OSCE,

Reiterating the importance of Permanent Council Decisions No. 486 of 28 June 2002 and No. 553 of 27 June 2003,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.04 – Provisional Expenditure Authorization,

Recalling Financial Regulation 3.01(b) – with reference to the authority of the Permanent Council to take decisions on all elements of the budget,

Recalling Financial Regulation 7.07 – Cash Surplus or Deficit, paragraph (b),

Taking note of the 2023 Forecast Deficit in the Conference and Language Services Programme (document PC.ACMF/53/23),

Taking note of the available cash surplus for 2021 as indicated in annex 2,

Acknowledging that the discussions on the 2023 Unified Budget are still ongoing and without prejudice to the outcome of these discussions,

1. Approves the Additional Provisional Expenditure Authorization for 2023, without setting a precedent, to the total amount of 958,000 euros in order to meet the anticipated financing requirements as set forth in annex 1;
2. Authorizes the use of 958,000 euros from the 2021 cash surplus, on an exceptional basis, in support of the Additional Expenditure Authorization as set forth in annex 2.

**2023 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION**

<b>Fund</b>	<b>Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b>	<b>Transfers Financial Regulation</b>	<b>Revised Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b>	<b>Total Forecast Expenditure 2023</b>	<b>Estimated Year-End Balance</b>	<b>Additional Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b>	<b>Total Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b>
	<b>Financial Regulation 3.04*</b>	<b>3.02(b)**</b>					
	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>C=A+B</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>E=C-D</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>G=C+F</b>

**The Secretariat**

**Secretary General and Central Services**

Conference and Language Services

5,437,500	(40,500)	5,397,000	6,354,936	(957,936)	958,000	6,355,000
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**TOTAL ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION**

**958,000**

\*Reflects provisional expenditure authorization until the end of 2023.

\*\*Reflects transfers to date.

**FINANCING OF THE 2023 ADDITIONAL PROVISIONAL  
EXPENDITURE AUTHORIZATION USING  
THE AVAILABLE CASH SURPLUS**

<b>Cash Surplus Year</b>	<b>Available Cash Surplus</b>	<b>Financing of 2023 Additional Provisional Expenditure Authorization</b>	<b>Cash Surplus Balance</b>
2021	3,827,077.88	958,000.00	2,869,077.88

PC.DEC/1462  
28 September 2023  
Attachment 1

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Spain (also on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden and Ukraine):

“The Member States of the European Union welcome the adoption of the Permanent Council decision granting an authorization of additional expenditure for Conference and Language Services (CLS).

Conference and Language Services enables the work of the entire OSCE and we must maintain the service level required to ensure that the Organization can function well. Through this decision we have avoided the risk of a sudden disruption to the operation of meetings of the decision-making bodies all the way to the end of the year.

Going forward, the participating States should ensure that sufficient resources are allocated to the CLS programme.

We call upon all the participating States to be consistent with their commitments and to provide the Organization with adequate means for implementing these, so as to allow the OSCE to function effectively in its three dimensions. We reiterate our urgent call on all the participating States to adopt a Unified Budget for 2023, and we stand ready to join consensus on it as soon as possible.”

PC.DEC/1462  
28 September 2023  
Attachment 2

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Canada:

“Mr. Chairperson,

Regarding the draft decision on the additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services (CLS) Programme, Canada would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure:

Canada supports the draft decision as proposed by the Chairmanship, allocating 958,000 euros from the 2021 cash surplus to fund anticipated financing requirements in the CLS programme. Though we would have preferred a Unified Budget, we think that support for the draft decision is still in the better interest of the Organization.

We emphasize that the piecemeal approach of allocating resources is a bad financial management practice and is neither sustainable nor desirable and should not become common practice.

We regret that the Russian Federation is withholding its support for the 2023 Unified Budget on politically motivated grounds. We call on Russia to cease obstructing the resolution of the 2023 Unified Budget.

We want to acknowledge the difficult situation that the lack of a Unified Budget creates for OSCE staff. We thank them for their professionalism and skill in managing this extremely difficult situation.

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision. Thank you.”

PC.DEC/1462  
28 September 2023  
Attachment 3

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Russian Federation:

“Having joined the consensus regarding the Permanent Council decision on the additional provisional expenditure authorization for the Conference and Language Services programme for 2023, the Russian Federation notes the following.

The use of a cash surplus from the OSCE budget to cover the forecast cash deficit of the Secretariat’s Conference and Language Services is a step taken out of necessity in view of the lack of agreement among the participating States on the Organization’s Unified Budget for the current year.

We are gravely concerned by the fact that, for the second year in a row, it has not been possible to reach consensus on the budget estimates owing to certain countries’ attempts to politicize the discussion of this technical matter and to put it in confrontational territory. We stress that all responsibility for this situation rests with those who refuse to remove from document PC.ACMF/57/22 a programmatic ‘narrative’ that does not correspond to the approved mandates and agreed OSCE documents, as required by Permanent Council Decision No. 486 (2002). Seeing that, in terms of the level of funding, the budget proposal for 2023 has long since been agreed on, it is their destructive and obstructionist approach that is pushing the Organization to the brink of a financial crisis due to a lack of resources.

The initiative of giving the OSCE Secretary General carte blanche in the use of cash surpluses is not in keeping with Financial Regulation 7.07. There has, moreover, been a significant decline in transparency and accountability in the management of the Organization’s financial assets of late. Similarly, the proposal to transfer to an extrabudgetary programme money originating from assessed contributions is not in line with international practice. Taking into account what has been said, we consider that cash surpluses may be used to provide additional funding for OSCE programmes and funds exclusively pursuant to Permanent Council decisions adopted on an ad hoc basis.

I request that this statement be attached to the adopted decision and included in the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.

Thank you for your attention.”