

CSCE  
THE CSO VIENNA GROUP  
VIENNA 1993

JOURNAL No. 14

14th PLENARY MEETING OF THE GROUP

1. Date: Thursday, 27 May 1993

Opened: 10.30 a.m.

Closed: 1.25 p.m.

2. Chairman: Mr. R. Ekeus (Sweden)

3. Subjects discussed:

Item 1: Issues related to a possible CSCE mission to the area dealt with by the Conference on Nagorno-Karabakh

Item 2: Representative of CSCE to Tajikistan

Item 3: Report of the Chairman-in-Office on her visit to the newly admitted participating States in Central Asia

Item 4: Financial implications of the proposal by the High Commissioner on National Minorities for a team of minority rights specialists to Slovakia and Hungary

Item 5: Arrears in contributions by participating States

Item 6: Information on the implementation of paragraph 15 of the Helsinki Summit Declaration 1992

Item 7: Information from the Chairman on other CSCE issues

Item 8: Any other business

4. Decisions:

(a) In accordance with the terms of the decision of the Committee of Senior Officials of 28 April 1993, the CSO Vienna Group has considered the terms of reference and financial implications of the proposal by the High Commissioner

on National Minorities for the creation of a team of minority rights specialists to analyse the situation of the Hungarian national minority in Slovakia and the Slovak national minority in Hungary.

The CSO Vienna Group takes positive note of the terms of reference as elaborated by the High Commissioner on National Minorities in consultation with the participating States concerned (Annex 1).

The CSO Vienna Group considers that the costs of the project should be borne within the existing budget of the High Commissioner on National Minorities.

The CSO Vienna Group understands that the High Commissioner on National Minorities and his staff and experts, as well as the Chairman-in-Office and the ODIHR, will be available for consultation and advice throughout the whole period of two years.

In addition, the High Commissioner on National Minorities is requested to provide information to the CSO Vienna Group after each visit of the team of experts and, as deemed appropriate, to encourage expansion of co-operation.

- (b) Pursuant to the decision by the CSO of 18 September 1992 regarding arrears, and after discussion in the Informal Financial Committee, the CSO Vienna Group asks the Chairman-in-Office to write a letter to all participating States, drawing their attention to the situation in respect of individual contributions, as described in the information provided by the CSCE Institutions. The letter should stress the importance of all participating States' fulfilling their financial commitments to the CSCE.
- (c) It was agreed to annex to the Journal the exchange of letters dated 26 May 1993 between the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE Council which constitutes the framework for co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations Secretariat and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (Annex 2).

5. Statement to be recorded in the Journal:

In connection with decision (a) above, the Romanian delegation made the following statement:

"The Romanian delegation regards the proposal by the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities for the creation of a team of minority rights specialists to analyse the situation of the Hungarian national minority in Slovakia and of the Slovak national minority in Hungary as an agreement between the two interested States, which have the right to decide as they consider appropriate.

Consequently, the CSCE procedure should not have been involved in this particular matter.

For the same reason, the Romanian delegation has reservations regarding the inclusion of the costs of this expert mission in the budget of the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities."

6. Next meeting:

Thursday, 3 June 1993, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal  
Chair: Sweden

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A TEAM OF MINORITY RIGHTS  
EXPERTS TO BE SENT TO SLOVAKIA AND HUNGARY

- 1(a) The CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities will, in consultation with the participating States concerned, designate three persons who can be considered to be experts on national minority rights questions and to be completely impartial. Their task will be to study, in the light of the general policies towards minorities of each of the governments concerned, both the situation of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia and the situation of the Slovak minority in Hungary, basing themselves on CSCE principles and commitments.
- (b) The role and the accountability of the High Commissioner will be governed by the appropriate paragraphs of Chapter II of the Helsinki Decisions of 10 July 1992.
- (c) The experts will be appointed for a period of two years, which might be extended if both the governments of Slovakia and Hungary and the High Commissioner on National Minorities would consider this desirable.
- (d) During the two year period, the experts can pay a maximum of four visits. A visit will always include a visit to both states. The time to be spent in each country during a visit will not exceed 9 days. The experts will be enabled to travel and communicate freely.
- (e) The experts will not include nationals or residents of either Slovakia or Hungary, or any expert against whom either of the two states has previously entered reservations. They will have to be nationals or residents of a state participating in CSCE, but they will not include more than one national or resident of any state.
- (f) Within fourteen days after each visit, the experts will submit a detailed report on their findings, an assessment of the follow-up given to earlier advice and recommendations made by the experts and/or the High Commissioner as well as their advice and recommendations to the High Commissioner.
- (g) The High Commissioner will decide whether and in what form the advice and recommendations of the experts will be communicated to the governments of Slovakia and Hungary. They will be non-binding. If, after consultations between the High Commissioner and the Chairman-in-Office, it is decided to make the advice and the recommendations available to the CSO, the government concerned will have the opportunity to comment.
- (h) When, after completion of the two year period, the report of the High Commissioner evaluating results will be sent to the CSO for consideration, his report will include a recommendation concerning a possible extension of the mandate of the team, taking into account paragraph 1(c) of the terms of reference.

2. The activities of the team can be described in more detail as follows:
  - (a) The members of the team will meet the representatives of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia and the Slovak minority in Hungary in order to hear their views about various aspects of their situation as a minority.
  - (b) The members of the team will meet with representatives of the Slovak government in order to hear their views, in the light of their general policies concerning minorities, about the question of the Hungarian minority in Slovakia, and with officials of the Hungarian government in order to hear their views, in the light of their general policies concerning minorities, about the question of the Slovak minority in Hungary.
  - (c) The members of the team will also meet with the members of the relevant Parliamentary commissions, academicians, NGOs and individuals in order to gather as broad as possible scale of opinions on both the government's minority policy and the assessment of the situation of the Hungarian and Slovak minority, respectively.

In order to facilitate the task of the team the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities will provide a briefing for the members of the team before their departure.

3. It is understood that a member of the staff of the CSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities will accompany the team on its journey, and that the governments of Slovakia and Hungary will provide the team with interpreters, drivers and transport in their respective countries.

The Secretary General

26 May 1993

Excellency,

With reference to General Assembly resolution 47/10 of 2 December 1992, entitled "Co-operation between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe", I attach the text which represents the outcome of our consultations on this matter.

I have the honour to inform you that I accept the arrangements described in this attachment which will constitute, upon receipt of your acceptance in writing, the framework for our mutual co-operation and co-ordination.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed) Boutros Boutros-Ghali

Her Excellency  
Ms. Margaretha af Ugglas  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden  
Chairman-in-Office of CSCE  
Stockholm

Conference on Security  
and Co-operation in Europe  
Chairman-in-Office

26 May 1993

His Excellency  
Dr. Boutros Boutros-Ghali  
Secretary-General of the  
United Nations

Excellency,

On behalf of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, I have the honour to inform you that I accept the arrangements described in the attachment to this letter which will constitute the framework for our mutual co-operation and co-ordination.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration,

(signed) Margaretha af Ugglas  
Chairman of the Council

Attachment

Framework for Co-operation and Co-ordination between  
the United Nations Secretariat and the Conference  
on Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of the Council of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Desirous of continuing and further strengthening the co-operation and co-ordination between the United Nations and the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe in all fields of mutual interest, in particular those relating to maintaining international peace and security and promoting respect for human rights within the CSCE area, and in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant United Nations General Assembly and Security Council resolutions as well as decisions by the CSCE Council and the CSCE Committee of Senior Officials,

Have, as part of the continuing development of mutual relations, agreed to the following:

- (1) The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE Council and their respective representatives will hold consultations on a regular basis in particular on co-operation and co-ordination of activities of common interest.
- (2) The Permanent Mission to the United Nations of the CSCE participating State holding the Office of Chairman will serve as the point of contact of the CSCE and as the representative of the Chairman-in-Office in contacts with the United Nations Secretariat in New York and in Geneva on appropriate activities of common interest. The CSCE delegation of the CSCE participating State holding the office of Chairman, the CSCE Secretary-General and other CSCE institutions in Vienna will serve as points of contact in Vienna.
- (3) Official information on relevant issues, including documents and decisions as well as specific reports, will be exchanged as appropriate between the United Nations and the CSCE.



- (4) The Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE, assisted or represented as appropriate by the Secretary General of the CSCE and other institutions of the CSCE, undertake to maintain close contact to ensure co-ordination, complementarity, possible mutual support and to avoid duplication in the planning and carrying out of activities. This relates in particular to long-term efforts to prevent conflicts and promote political settlement of conflicts.
- (5) Such contacts should take the form of
  - consultation on the preparation, initiation and implementation of fact-finding and other missions e.g. timing, composition, terms of reference
  - exchange of information between UN and CSCE representatives in the field on the situation in the area of their responsibility and other relevant information including movements and other activities of missions
- (6) In addition co-operation may cover
  - exchange of information in preparing reports of missions
  - examination of the possibility of joint reports
  - examination of the possibilities of various kinds of mutual assistance in the field
  - examination of the possibility of joint missions
- (7) The forms of co-operation referred to above (paras. 5 and 6) may be applicable to peacekeeping operations in the CSCE region.
- (8) The CSCE, in planning and carrying out peacekeeping activities, may, as appropriate, draw upon the technical assistance and advice of the United Nations.
- (9) In principle the United Nations and the CSCE will bear their respective costs related to joint activities. Whenever necessary a precise division of costs related to a joint activity will be agreed upon.
- (10) Letters of Understanding should be concluded as appropriate for each co-ordinated area of activity.