



Follow-Up on Recommendations in the OSCE PA's Oslo Declaration

General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment

Final Report for the 2011 Annual Session

Prepared by the International Secretariat

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Note on sources: In December 2010, the International Secretariat circulated a questionnaire to OSCE PA Delegations, asking for information on the implementation of OSCE PA recommendations in the Oslo Declaration. This report offers citations of the responses provided by parliaments, which are available in electronic format from the OSCE PA International Secretariat. The International Secretariat wishes to thank the Delegations that provided answers, as well as the OSCE Secretary General for information provided on behalf of the OSCE.

Introduction

Around 250 parliamentarians representing 43 OSCE participating States met in Oslo from 6 to 10 July 2010 to assess developments and challenges relating to security and co-operation, focusing on the general theme of *Rule of Law: Combating Transnational Crime and Corruption*. In addition to addressing the economic and environmental dimension of the general theme, the General Committee on Economic Affairs, Science, Technology and Environment passed resolutions dealing with, *inter alia*, the Arctic, climate change, the Millennium Development Goals, Mediterranean co-operation and cyber crime.

This Follow-Up Report considers actions taken by the OSCE, including Institutions and Field Operations, over the past year in relation to the OSCE PA's recommendations. Developments within participating States relating to the Oslo Declaration's recommendations are detailed in responses provided by national OSCE PA delegations on a voluntary basis, and are available in electronic format. The Secretariat wishes to extend sincere thanks to those delegations that took the time to respond in the interest of sharing best practices.

While the majority of the recommendations addressed here are found in the OSCE PA's Oslo Declaration of July 2010, key themes from past Declarations have also been considered, to ensure greater continuity and scope. The International Secretariat appreciates the input on their work within these fields provided by the OSCE Secretary General, the Representative on Freedom of the Media and the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights.

The Astana Summit

In December 2010, Heads of State and Government assembled in Astana in the first OSCE Summit meeting in 11 years, as had been called for by the OSCE parliamentarians in Oslo. The meeting was intended to bring renewed political impetus to the OSCE process. In a commemorative declaration, the leaders of the OSCE participating States reaffirmed their adherence "to all OSCE norms, principles and commitments, starting from the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris, the Charter for European Security and all other OSCE documents to which we have agreed, and our responsibility to implement them fully and in good faith." While no specific new agreements were reached, participating States reiterated their commitment to comprehensive, co-operative, equal and indivisible security, which relates the maintenance of peace to the respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and links economic and environmental co-operation with peaceful inter-State relations.

The Astana Summit was preceded by an OSCE Review Conference held in Warsaw, Vienna and Astana, which considered implementation of a wide range of OSCE commitments.

Responsibilities Towards Ensuring Global Energy Security

I. Oslo Declaration

The Oslo Declaration affirms that energy security is one of the most important factors ensuring the national security of each participating State and a key element in modern world policy affecting the interests of all countries.¹ Defining “energy security” as the “protection of physical persons and the country as a whole from the risks of interruption of energy supplies and shortages of all types of energy resources, arising under the negative influence of natural, anthropogenic, management, socio-economic, internal or external political factors,” the resolution calls on participating States to make a significant contribution to ensuring energy safety by enhancing dialogue and co-operation.²

II. OSCE Initiatives

OSCE 19th Economic and Environmental Forum

Sustainable energy and energy security were discussed at the first preparatory meeting of this year's Economic and Environmental Forum, on 7-8 February in Vienna.³ The two-day meeting brought together participants from the OSCE's 56 participating States, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and partner countries. Topics included energy efficiency and sustainable use of traditional and new energy sources, effective national policies for sustainable energy, good governance and transparency in the energy field, and regional and sub-regional co-operation.

A second preparatory meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum followed on 4-5 April, organized in Druskininkai, Lithuania, by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship. The main topic discussed was the need for co-ordinated policies to ensure transport grows sustainably to benefit the environment as well as the economy.⁴

The theme of the Nineteenth OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum concluding meeting, to be held on 14-16 September in Prague, is “Promotion of common actions and co-operation in the OSCE area in the fields of development of sustainable energy and transport.”

Lithuanian Chairmanship's Priorities 2011

Speaking at the closing session of the expert meeting on assessing the OSCE's future contribution to international energy security co-operation in Vilnius on 14 September 2010, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Azubalis said that the 2011 Chairmanship would

¹ See OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, 2010, “Resolution on Afghanistan”, *Oslo Declaration*, p. 44.

² Ibid.

³ OSCE Press Release, ‘Need for multidimensional approach to sustainable energy focus of OSCE meeting’, 7 February 2011, <http://www.osce.org/eea/75412>

⁴ OSCE Press Release, ‘Need for integrated and co-ordinated policies for sustainable transport focus of OSCE meeting’, 4 April 2011, <http://www.osce.org/eea/76346>

continue to focus on energy security and transport. Reflecting the conclusions of the Vilnius Expert Meeting, the Chairmanship seeks to take advantage of the OSCE's "unique pan-European and trans-Atlantic platform to support existing frameworks."⁵

Lithuanian Deputy Foreign Minister Evaldas Ignatavicius stated that key priorities for Lithuania's Chairmanship in the field of energy security include supply diversification, energy sources diversity, the development of the energy infrastructure, fair competition and more effective use of current resources to promote low carbon energy.⁶ Equal importance will be given to both co-operation and domestic activities, he said.⁷

According to its Work Programme, the Lithuanian Chairmanship prioritizes the implementation of the tasks contained in the Astana Declaration including aspects of sub-regional co-operation grounded in the activities of field operations with a special emphasis on transport and energy.⁸ In addition, it seeks to contribute to the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Report on the OSCE's Potential Role in Energy Security.

In an address to the UN Security Council on 15 February 2011, the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Azubalis highlighted common challenges faced by the OSCE and UN. Furthermore, he underlined the importance of co-operation between the UN and OSCE on the issue of energy security⁹. The Lithuanian Chairmanship has also worked to strengthen energy co-operation with the United States.¹⁰

Field Activities

On 17-18 March 2011, the Centre in Ashgabat in co-operation with the Office of the Co-ordinator for Economic and Environmental Activities and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan organized a workshop on "Energy Diplomacy: Theory and Practices in the context of History, Geopolitics and Financial Markets." Twenty-seven representatives from various energy-related agencies and ministries, institutions, universities and the academic community participated in the workshop.¹¹

On 15 and 16 March 2011, the Office in Tajikistan supported a two-day seminar about the standardization of investment mechanisms and procedures for small hydropower stations. The seminar was the second meeting of an inter-ministerial working group in the framework of the

⁵ As cited in Lithuania's OSCE Chairmanship Website, "Programme of Lithuania's chairmanship 2011", <http://esbo.urm.lt/index.php?1860759643>.

⁶ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE expert meeting concludes with call for enhanced co-operation to tackle energy security challenges", 14 September 2010, http://www.osce.org/eea/item_1_46058.html

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Lithuania's OSCE Chairmanship Website, "Programme of Lithuania's chairmanship 2011", <http://esbo.urm.lt/index.php?1860759643>.

⁹ OSCE Press Release, 'Co-ordinated UN, OSCE action key to addressing regional security challenges', 15 February 2011, <http://www.osce.org/cio/75590>

¹⁰ European Dialogue, "Lithuania and US consistently strengthen energy cooperation", 26 May 2011. <http://eurodialogue.org/LITHUANIA-AND-US-CONSISTENTLY-STRENGTHEN-ENERGY-CO-OPERATION>

¹¹ OSCE Press Release, 'OSCE workshop in Ashgabat promotes principles of energy diplomacy', 17 March 2011, <http://www.osce.org/ashgabat/76134>

Tajik Norwegian small-scale hydropower initiative. More than thirty officials and experts on water energy took part in the event. The participants identified and discussed essential requirements for the standardization of investment procedures for small hydropower stations, as well as practical mechanisms for improvement and defined guidelines for the inter-ministerial working group. This seminar was part of a series of working sessions aimed at developing a government-endorsed action plan for the development of small hydro power.¹²

On 1 November 2010, as part of an effort to improve Kyrgyzstan's ability to protect critical energy infrastructure, the OSCE Centre in Bishkek organized a two-week training course for internal troops of Kyrgyzstan's Interior Ministry on enhancing computer skills. Some 35 mid-level and high-ranking staff participated in the course, covering topics such as the effective use of office applications and software.¹³

The OSCE Office in Tajikistan held a workshop on 26 October 2010 focused on water resources, bringing together representatives of government ministries and state institutions in the fields of water, energy and agriculture from all regions of Tajikistan. According to Rakhmat Bobokalonov, Tajikistan's Minister of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, "the Aral Sea Basin, where water is becoming increasingly short in supply due to climate change, on the one hand, and a higher consumption of water due to population growth, on the other, does not constitute an exception. It is crucial to apply appropriate approaches and methods for solving water challenges and prevent possible tensions in such basins."¹⁴

A training course for Interior Ministry officials on watercraft patrolling and the use of emergency equipment to protect hydropower stations was initiated on 30 July 2010 in Cholpon-Ata in Kyrgyzstan. Members of staff from the Interior Ministry who usually deal with the protection of critical infrastructure took part in the ten-day training.¹⁵ The course covered topics such as effective patrolling with motorboats, use of emergency equipment and related matters. A similar training course was held at the Toktogul hydropower plant in Kyrgyzstan's Jalal-Abad province in early July 2010.¹⁶

III. National Initiatives

More on global energy security can be found on pp. 9-10 of Canada's response, p. 8 of France's response, and pp. 6-7 of Greece's response.

¹² OSCE Press Release, 'OSCE Office supports expert discussions on investment in hydropower', 16 March 2011, <http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/76119>

¹³ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE Centre enhances computer skills of Kyrgyzstan's Interior Ministry troops", 1 November 2010, http://www.osce.org/bishkek/item_1_47421.html

¹⁴ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE Office in Tajikistan trains officials on confidence-building in water management", 26 October 2010, <http://www.osce.org/item/47331.html>

¹⁵ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE-supported course on protecting hydropower stations to be held in Kyrgyzstan", 30 July 2010, <http://www.osce.org/item/45571.html>

¹⁶ Ibid.

Mediterranean Co-operation

I. Oslo Declaration

The Oslo Declaration calls on participating States “to engage in a dialogue with the Union for the Mediterranean and other international organizations in order to facilitate synergistic co-operation with the activities of the OSCE Mediterranean dimension.” It also encourages OSCE’s Mediterranean Partners to send robust delegations to participate in OSCE election observation missions and to invite missions to their elections. It further encourages the OSCE Secretariat to engage in dialogue with the Union for the Mediterranean, the EU, NATO, the Co-operation Process in the Western Mediterranean (Dialogue 5+5), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly, the Standing Committee for the Euro Mediterranean Partnership of Local and Regional Authorities, the Euro-Mediterranean Regional and Local Assembly, the Alliance of Civilizations, and other interested entities, in order to facilitate synergistic co-operation with the activities of the OSCE Mediterranean Dimension.

II. OSCE Initiatives

Secretary General’s Response

In response to the PA’s request for the Organization to engage in dialogue with several organizations and initiate formal co-operation agreements, OSCE Secretary General Marc Perrin de Brichambaut responded that “the OSCE Secretariat’s External Co-operation Section has facilitated contacts with the Union for the Mediterranean, the European Union and NATO with the Group of the OSCE Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.” Experts from these organizations participated in meetings of the Mediterranean Contact Group in 2010 in order to enhance mutual knowledge and to stimulate discussions on potential co-operation, the Secretary General said.

2011 Winter Meeting

In light of the political transitions taking place in the Mediterranean area, the OSCE PA’s tenth Winter Meeting devoted its Special Debate to the topic. The debate on the situation in the Mediterranean region was introduced by Special Representative on Mediterranean Affairs Alcee Hastings (United States). “This debate is inspired by the courage and dignity of the people in Tunisia, Egypt, and throughout the Mediterranean region,” Mr. Hastings said as he opened the debate.

With representatives from Algeria, Jordan, Israel, Morocco and Egypt in attendance, Mr. Hastings called for swift action to help countries looking to transition to democracy. He said parliamentarians should assist in building democratic institutions in the region through more than election observation. During the discussion, parliamentarians stressed that the OSCE should help in building democratization in countries even if they are not within the OSCE’s scope. It was emphasized that European countries should acknowledge their responsibility for supporting stability in Mediterranean countries and that repression must be immediately condemned.

The Winter Meeting concluded with the 228 parliamentarians issuing a joint statement on the situation in North Africa. The PA “expresses its deepest concern for the conflicts and violence in the countries of North Africa and for the unacceptable repression carried out in Libya by Gaddafi’s regime,” read the statement, issued by OSCE PA President Petros Efthymiou.

“In compliance with the Helsinki Final Act,” the statement went on, “the OSCE PA pledges to co-operate with the United Nations, European Union, Arab League, and all international organizations, so that effective and proactive measures are adopted in order to stop violence and the massacres of the civil population as well as to share the commitment to helping and supporting the refugees and victims of this crisis.”

Mediterranean Forum of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly

The OSCE PA's Fall Meetings, held on 8-11 October in Palermo, included its annual Fall Mediterranean Forum on 8 October. More than 200 OSCE Parliamentarians participated in the event, as well as delegates from the parliaments of Israel, Algeria and Morocco. Organized in two sessions, the Mediterranean Forum addressed co-operation and infrastructure sectors throughout the Mediterranean basin, as well as cultural and environmental co-operation as an expression of the Mediterranean civilization. Speakers at the Fall Meetings included Vice President of the Algerian Council of the Nation Abderezak Bouhara, Italian Minister for Infrastructure and Transportation Altero Matteoli, former Vice President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Jerry Grafstein, and Chairman of the OSCE Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners Renatas Norkus, among others.¹⁷

2011 OSCE Chairmanship

The OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Lithuanian Foreign Minister Audronius Ažubalis, presented the programme of the Lithuanian Chairmanship at the OSCE Permanent Council in Vienna on 13 January 2011. Among its priorities, the Chairmanship will further promote close co-operation between the OSCE and other international, regional and sub-regional organizations and institutions, and will enhance the level of interaction with the OSCE's Asian and Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.¹⁸

Matching of Agricultural Production with Protection of Natural Ecosystems

I. Oslo Declaration

In order to feed the world's expected population of nine billion people in 2050, planetary agricultural production must increase by 70 per cent according to Food and Agriculture Organization assessments, the Oslo Declaration points out. The Resolution on the Matching of Agricultural Production with Protection of Natural Ecosystems calls upon participating States of the OSCE to stimulate both research and policies that address and optimize agricultural, recreational and natural land use in an integrated way. It invites participating States to exchange experiences, develop joint position papers that trigger research and development and carry political weight to look for optimization of land use in respect of agriculture, pasture, recreation, timber, natural ecosystems and biodiversity.

II. OSCE Activities

¹⁷ OSCE PA, “News from Copenhagen”, Number 361, 13 October 2010.

¹⁸ Official Website of the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship 2011, “Programme of Lithuania's chairmanship 2011”, 13 January 2011, <<http://esbo.urm.lt/index.php?1860759643>>.

Workshops and Training Courses

A four-day OSCE event starting on 21 March 2011 in Kyiv focused on detecting and preventing the illegal cross-border trafficking of waste and other hazardous waste in Eastern Europe. The workshop was attended by more than 50 officials from customs, border guard and environmental authorities, Interpol national bureaus and universities from Eastern Europe, Central Asia and the South Caucasus. All participants dealt with the detection and prevention of illegal cross-border transportation of waste and other environment-sensitive commodities.

The OSCE Centre in Bishkek's Osh field office supported a three-day training seminar for the staff of 24 Water User Associations (WUAs) in Jalal-Abad in the south of Kyrgyzstan which started on 23 May 2011. The training programme encompassed legislation on the use of water, the prevention of soil salinization, and modern irrigation methods to reduce water consumption. The curriculum of the seminar aimed to increase the effectiveness of water management in southern Kyrgyzstan, which could contribute to reduction of the risk of conflict over water.

The OSCE Centre in Astana, the UNDP, and the Committee on Water Resources under Kyrgyzstan's Ministry of Agriculture organized a workshop on the promotion of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) in Kazakhstan in Astana on 22 June 2011. The workshop aims to raise awareness on IWRM issues, facilitate dialogue on necessary legislative and institutional changes against IWRM principles and contribute to strengthening the capacity of water governance in Kazakhstan.

Other Initiatives

On 29 March 2011 the OSCE Mission to Moldova held a meeting attended by the members of Moldovan and Transnistrian expert working groups on agriculture and ecology and representatives from non-governmental organizations from both banks of the River Dniestr/Nistru. The participants discussed environmental co-operation as well as matters related to the disposal of obsolete and dangerous pesticides.

The second preparatory meeting of the Economic and Environmental Forum was organized by Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities in co-operation with the Lithuanian Chairmanship in the Lithuanian town of Druskininkai on 4 April 2011. The participants of the meeting discussed the role of policies in enhancing innovation and technologies for environmentally friendly transportation choices, the facilitation of international land transport and the integration of transport networks in the OSCE area.

The third roundtable at the School of Ecological Activism, organized by the OSCE Mission to Montenegro and the environmental non-governmental organization Ozone, took place in Montenegrin town Ulcinj on 24 May 2011. The topics discussed at the meeting included safe disposal of medical waste, and challenges in the implementation of environmental legislation.

High-level representatives from the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, the Sustainable Development and Tourism Ministry and the Environmental Protection Agency marked the opening of an OSCE-supported Aarhus Centre during a news conference held in Podgorica on 15 April 2011. The OSCE provides support to the establishment and functioning of the Aarhus Centre, which will provide environmental information to the public, under a regional project implemented through the Environment and Security Initiative.

III. National Initiatives

More on matching agricultural production with natural ecosystems can be found on p. 10 of Canada's response, p. 2 of Czech Republic's response, pp. 10-11 of France's response, p. 7 (in the Second Committee document) of Greece's response, p. 5 of Iceland's response and p. 11 of Poland's response.

Migration as a Continuing Challenge for the OSCE

I. Oslo Declaration

The Oslo Declaration calls on OSCE participating States to increase efforts in the field of migration, in particular by enhancing co-operation with national police, international institutions and NGOs. Participating States are called on to pay special attention to human trafficking, labour migration, the right of education, discrimination in employment, the position of women, and to recognize the economic contribution of migrants. The Declaration further recommends that participating States increase the work on knowledge and data of migratory flows, including the gender dimension in labour migration and migrant communities. The resolution also calls for increased efforts to combat human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants, specifically by enhancing international co-operation in this area.

II. OSCE Activities

The dialogue on migration management within the OSCE has continued over the past year in the framework of the Corfu Process, at the Meeting of the Mediterranean Contact Group, the Review Conferences (Warsaw, Vienna and Astana) and in the Economic and Environmental Committee.¹⁹ According to Dr. Maria Grazia Giammarinaro, the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, "trafficking for labour exploitation remains a top priority for the OSCE."²⁰

Following the Ministerial Council Decision No. 5/09 on Migration Management, the OSCE launched measures to start the Migration Issues Network (MIN). The primary purpose of the network is to strength the co-ordination on migration issues and information sharing between OSCE participating States, Partners for Co-operation, related OSCE structures and institutions, academic institutions and migration specialized international and national institutions and agencies. The MIN will give substance to the provision of the Athens Ministerial Decision regarding the provision of a "broad platform for dialogue" and will give it concrete scope. Thanks to the OSCE Field Operations first-hand information from a significant number of countries can be generated.²¹

¹⁹ SEC.GAL/92/10

²⁰ <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnEU/cache/offonce/lang/en?entryId=28307> (accessed 22.11.2010)

²¹ MC.DEC/5/09

Also in 2010 the OSCE participating States asked the OSCE/ODIHR to assist them in developing migration policies and conducting migration-related research, with the aim of providing a forum for dialogue between countries of origin and destination countries. ODIHR has provided assistance to develop efficient and humane migration management policies on the national and regional levels.²²

The OSCE started a series of supportive training seminars (the first in Helsinki in April 2010 and the second in Astana in September). The event is the second of a series of three training seminars on gender and labour migration, based on the OSCE's Guide on Gender-Sensitive Labour Migration Policies, and Trainer's Manual on Gender and Labour Migration. The training is focused on awareness-raising of the challenges faced by female migrant workers in the OSCE region and the need for more appropriate policy responses. The two-day training event was organized by the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) and the OSCE Centre in Astana in co-operation with the Kazakh Chairmanship, the Finnish Government, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the International Labour Organization.

The event gathered around 50 mid-level government officials and policymakers from the Russian Federation, the countries of South Caucasus and Central Asia, migration experts, and representatives of labour unions, and employers' organizations.²³

In December 2010 the OCEEA and the IOM held a joint event for the newly produced IOM-OSCE Training Modules on Labour Migration Management Manual in Vienna. The manual, distributed to OSCE Delegations and to specialized migration agencies and institutions, provides guidance for trainers to enhance existing capacity and talents to generate effective programmes and policies that facilitate humane and orderly migration. It is designed to help those who work in countries of origin, transit countries and countries of destination alike.²⁴

The OSCE and the IOM initiated joint efforts to assist the Government of Armenia to modernize and improve the country's identification and travel document systems. The initiative follows a request from the Armenian Police and Armenian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, which sought help in the implementation of electronic passports and identification cards with biometric parameters beginning in 2011.²⁵

On 16 December 2010 Belarusian officials attend an OSCE-supported visit to Stockholm during which they learned about Swedish labour migration legislation and its practical implementation. The OSCE Mission in Minsk supported this trip as part of its work to assist the Belarusian government in strengthening the rule of law.²⁶

²² EEF.GAL/13/09; PC.DEL/487/10/Rev.2/Add.1

²³ http://www.osce.org/eea/item_1_46059.html (accessed 06.12.2010)

²⁴ <http://www.osce.org/item/47485.html> (accessed 06.12.2010)

²⁵ <http://www.iom.int/jahia/Jahia/media/press-briefing-notes/pbnEU/cache/offonce/lang/en?entryId=28103> (accessed 22.11.2010)

²⁶ OSCE Press Release, "Belarusian officials learn about migration policy during OSCE-supported visit to Sweden," 16 December 2010, <http://www.osce.org/minsk/74593>.

On 10 February 2011 the OSCE and IOM launched a training manual on labour migration. The launch was attended by OSCE delegations, specialized migration agencies and institutions, and external migration experts. The manual follow ups on the migration priorities of the 2009 OSCE Greek Chairmanship.²⁷

On 20 January 2011 the preliminary findings and recommendations from an assessment of Tajikistan's collection of migration data by the OSCE and the IOM were presented. On February 17 preliminary findings and recommendations from an assessment of migration data in Kazakhstan by the OSCE and IOM were presented to government officials and policymakers. Each assessment is part of a bigger project supporting the establishment of a harmonized data collection process in Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan. This project is in line with the OSCE Ministerial Council Decision on Migration Management calling for improved collection of comparable data on migration to facilitate dialogue and exchange of best practices.

The OSCE office in Tajikistan hosted two days of consultation on how to combat human trafficking in northern Tajikistan. In attendance were national and regional government authorities, civil society and international organizations.²⁸

A two-day course was held in Vienna in May to raise awareness of the challenges faced by female migrant workers in the OSCE region and the need for more appropriate policy responses. This event is the third and last in a series of training seminars on gender and labour migration, based on the OSCE's publications, *Guide on Gender-Sensitive Labour Migration Policies* and *the Trainer's Manual on Gender and Migration*. The previous events took place in Astana and Helsinki in September and April 2010 respectively.²⁹

On 19 May 2011 representatives of the government, parliament, civil society and the international organizations in Kazakhstan discussed the new draft migration law at an OSCE workshop in Astana. Some 50 participants assessed the compatibility of the draft law with international law standards and best practices. Legal opinions and remarks on the draft law were provided by the OSCE ODIHR, the International Labour Organization, and UN Women at the request of Kazakh authorities. The draft national legislation on migration regulation is scheduled to be voted into law by Parliament in August 2011.³⁰

III. National Initiatives

More on managing migration can be found on p. 16 of Azerbaijan's response, pp. 15-16 of Canada's response, pp. 4-5 of Czech Republic's response, pp. 13-14 of Greece's Third Committee response, pp. 12-15 of Latvia's response, p. 9 of Liechtenstein's response, p. 3 (of

²⁷ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE and IOM launch training manual on labour migration," 10 February 2011, <http://www.osce.org/eea/75538>.

²⁸ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE Office hosts regional anti-trafficking consultations in northern Tajikistan," 13 April 2011, <http://www.osce.org/tajikistan/76897>.

²⁹ OSCE Press Release, "OSCE-supported seminar focuses on challenges faced by female migrant workers," 17 May 2011, <http://www.osce.org/eea/77575>.

³⁰ OSCE Press Release, OSCE Workshop on Kazakhstan's draft migration law, 19 May 2011, <http://www.osce.org/astana/77797>.

part 3) of Lithuania's response, pp. 15-16 of Poland's response and pp. 17-18 of Romania's response.

Cyber Crime

I. Oslo Declaration

Calling attention to cyber attacks, which pose a serious security threat in the OSCE area, and acknowledging the crucial role of co-operation between all the States in order to reduce modern security risks, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly passed a resolution in Oslo promoting increased co-operation and information exchange among OSCE participating States and all other members of the international community in the field of cyber security and cyber crime.

The PA's resolution invites OSCE participating States to agree on specific countermeasures against cyber threats with a view to reaching a comprehensive and long-term settlement based on the norms and principles of international law. In addition, the Assembly's resolution recognizes all efforts to examine the efficiency of existing measures in order to find common responses to the advancement of new information technologies while encouraging co-operation between States and private industry.³¹

II. OSCE Initiatives

The OSCE Action against Terrorism Unit defines countering terrorist use of the Internet and cyber security in general as one of the "main concerns that preoccupy current global counter-terrorism thinking." The need to explore a possible role for the OSCE with regard to cyber security is of the main priorities for joint work of the ATU and the Lithuanian Chairmanship.³²

"A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber Security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role"

Due to its political significance related to the transnational threats agenda of the Organization and the fact that it is such a priority for the CiO, the 2011 Lithuanian Chairmanship and the OSCE Secretariat organized a conference: "A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber Security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role" on 9-10 May 2011 in Vienna. The conference looked into the way forward for the OSCE in handling the challenges arising from cyber security issues. The aim of the event was to raise awareness of various threats to cyber security, to develop potential responses to these threats and to determine the future role of the OSCE initiatives on the global and regional level.³³

Training Seminar in Lithuania

³¹ OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, "Oslo Declaration of the Parliamentary Assembly and Resolutions Adopted at the Nineteenth Annual Session," Oslo, 6 July to 10 July 2010, 55.

³² OSCE, "ATU Speaking Points for the Security Committee Meeting on 24 January 2011" SEC.GAL/10/11, 18 January 2011.

³³ OSCE, "A Comprehensive Approach to Cyber Security: Exploring the Future OSCE Role", May 2011, <http://www.osce.org/event/cyber_sec2011>.

The OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU), which has substantial experience in facilitating police training, has for the past two years worked closely with the ATU and both the commercial and academic sectors to provide cyber-crime training. On 25 May 2011 in Vilnius the SPMU organized a three-day training seminar for cybercrime experts and law enforcement investigators on how to combat sexual abuse of children on the Internet. The seminar was organized in close co-operation with the Lithuanian Ombudsman for Children's Rights, Lithuanian Foreign Ministry and the country's Parliament. Participants from Moldova, the Republic of Belarus, Romania, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Lithuania discussed how co-ordination and information-sharing can help them better detect, investigate and prosecute sexual abuse of children on the Internet.³⁴

III. National Initiatives

More on cyber crime initiatives can be found on p. 9 of Azerbaijan's response, p. 13 of Belarus's response, p. 8 of Canada's response, p. 3 of the Czech Republic's response, pp. 9-10 of France's response, pp. 3-5 (in the Second Committee document) of Greece's response, p. 6 of Iceland's response, pp. 8-9 of Latvia's response, p. 6 of Liechtenstein's response, pp. 1-2 (in part 4) of Lithuania's response, p. 8 of Poland's response, pp. 3-4 of Romania's response, pp. 5-7 of Sweden's response, pp. 8-9 of Switzerland's response and p. 3 of Germany's response.

Fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals

I. Oslo Declaration

Bearing in mind that the adoption of the UN Millennium Declaration in 2000 was a landmark in worldwide co-operation for the 21st century, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly adopted in Oslo a resolution on the fulfillment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In this resolution the OSCE parliamentarians call on participating States to publicly proclaim their support to the achievement of the MDGs and to promote a rescue plan for the MDGs that includes an emergency funding plan, a commitment towards the quality of aid and a coherent approach to development and a strategy that provides effective solutions to each problem.³⁵

II. OSCE Initiatives

OSCE Chairmanship

The 2010 OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Kazakhstan's Secretary of State and Minister of Foreign Affairs Kanat Saudabayev, stated that Kazakhstan has "initiated plans for holding ESCAP and UNECE ministerial conferences, in 2010-2011 in Astana. The goal of these events," he said, "is to build a 'Green Bridge' between Europe and Asia and to harmonize programs for sustainable

³⁴ OSCE, "OSCE holds regional training seminar in Lithuania to combat sexual abuse of children on the Internet", 25 May 2011, <<http://www.osce.org/spmu/78115>>.

³⁵ OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, "Oslo Declaration of the Parliamentary Assembly and Resolutions Adopted at the Nineteenth Annual Session," Oslo. 6 July to 10 July 2010, 53

development and environmental protection.”³⁶ Within the framework of its OSCE Chairmanship, “Kazakhstan is actively promoting the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in order to end hunger and ensure food security.”³⁷ OSCE field operations co-operate closely with UN agencies and missions.

OSCE PA Fall Meetings

The issue of the Millennium Development Goals was addressed at the OSCE PA's Fall Meetings, held in Palermo from 8 to 11 October, particularly by Matteo Mecacci, Rapporteur of the General Committee on Democracy, Human Rights and Humanitarian Questions. Speaking about the impact of the global financial crisis on the state budgets of donor countries, Mr. Mecacci noted that the cuts in development aid by the G8 countries are disproportionate to the decrease of their GDPs. He lamented that the Millennium Development Goals' commitments with regard to development aid and eradication of poverty have not yet been met.

III. National Initiatives

More on the effort to fulfill the MDGs can be found on pp. 11-12 of Azerbaijan's response, p. 11 of Canada's response, p. 3 of Czech Republic's response, pp. 11-12 of France's response, p. 8 of Greece's Second Committee response, p. 5 of Iceland's response, p. 7 of Liechtenstein's response, pp. 11-12 of Poland's response, p. 3 of San Marino's response and pp. 8-9 of Sweden's response.

³⁶ Statement by Mr. Kanat Saudabayev, OSCE Chairperson-in-Office, Secretary of State and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, during the General Debate at the 65th Session of UN General Assembly <http://www.osce2010.kz/en/statements/official-statements/statement-mr-kanat-saudabayev-osce-chairperson-office-secretary-state>

³⁷ Address by H.E. President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev on the occasion of Kazakhstan's assumption of the Chairmanship of the OSCE, January 14, 2010 <http://www.osce2010.webs.com/>