

Three General Committees debate Reports and Draft Resolutions



The OSCE PA's three general committees began working on resolutions Saturday dealing with topics including transnational terrorism, the crisis in and around Ukraine, protracted conflicts in Georgia, corruption, energy, climate change, migration, and the rights of refugees.

Introducing the resolution to the First Committee, Rapporteur Margareta Cederfelt (MP, Sweden) noted the importance of rebuilding trust and promoting stability in the OSCE region. "Since so many of our common challenges require real multilateral engagement, we as parliamentarians should work together in overcoming these challenges and work towards our mutual security," she said.

Chaired by U.S. Senator Roger Wicker, the committee debated issues related to the security situation in the OSCE area, with a particular focus on terrorism and the crisis in and around Ukraine. Members agreed to three amendments to Cederfelt's resolution and continue consideration of amendments Sunday.

In the Second Committee, chaired by Nilza Sena (MP, Portugal), Rapporteur Marietta Tidei (MP, Italy) noted that 2016 marks 25 years since the international community began

addressing one of the most pressing environmental concerns of our time.

"In 1991, the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee held its first meeting to tackle what was already seen at that time as a serious challenge to humanity, the threat of climate change," Tidei noted. She welcomed the adoption of the Paris Climate Agreement and urged its swift implementation by OSCE countries. Other issues touched on included food security, corruption and economic inequality. The committee began consideration of amendments and continues its work Sunday.

The Third Committee opened debate on Rapporteur Gordana Comic (MP, Serbia)'s report and draft resolution, introduced by Committee Chair Isabel Santos (MP, Portugal). Chaired by Ivana Dobesova (MP, Czech Republic), the committee debated issues including humanitarian concerns related to the migration crisis, especially the special vulnerabilities of women and girls.

The committees continue debating the resolutions Sunday, with a number of amendments to consider before taking up supplementary items.

MPs consider how to transform gender equality goals into action



Opened by Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry (MP, Canada), Saturday's Gender Lunch featured keynote addresses by Manana Kobakhidze, the First Vice-Speaker of the Georgian Parliament, and OSCE PA President Ilkka Kanerva (MP, Finland). The working lunch, held under the theme "Transforming Gender Equality Goals into Concrete Action," was also addressed by Elene Rusetskaia, Director

of the Women's Information Center, and Sophia Japaridze, Assistant to the Prime Minister of Georgia on Human Rights and Gender Equality Issues. Key themes discussed by the speakers included how to increase opportunities for women and how to improve social, political and economic conditions for women through the improvement of national legislation.

Following the keynote addresses, participants discussed how to move from commitment to action, proposing a number of concrete actions for success in achieving gender equality on the local, national, and international levels.

Programme ~ Sunday, 3 July

- 09.30 – 11.00 First Committee (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)
- 09.30 – 11.00 Second Committee (King David IV – Hall 11)
- 11.30 – 13.00 Third Committee (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)
- 14:30 – 16:00 First Committee (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)
- 14:30 – 16:00 Second Committee (King David IV – Hall 11)
- 16:30 – 18:00 Third Committee (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)