Special Representative

To:

PA President

and

PA Secretary General

Permanent Council Brief Weeks 16-18, 2010

During these weeks, meetings of the Permanent Council, the FSC, both Contact Groups, the ambassadorial working group on the Corfu Process and informal sub-groups, the Preparatory Committee and of many of the other committees took place, as well as the First Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Gender.

The PC approved the agenda, timetable and other organizational modalities of the 2010 Human Dimension Seminar, and of the 2010 Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) (14 – 16 June in Vienna), the dates and topics of which had been approved in a previous meeting. Also approved were the dates and venue of the 2010 OSCE Mediterranean Conference (14/15 October in La Valetta). In week 16 much of the discussion under "Current Issues" was devoted to the crisis in Kyrgyzstan. In this context, the PC decided the following week to allow the OSCE Centre in Bishkek to provisionally spend 200.000 Euros from the OSCE Contingency Fund.

The PC also was addressed by the Secretary General of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, and debated the regular report from the Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, on which I delivered a statement about our March Presidential Visit to the country. The PC also commemorated 65 years of the end of World War II.

Roughly 20 Food-for-Thought papers on Corfu-related issues have been circulated by varying groupings of delegations over the past couple of weeks, covering many aspects of OSCE work in the three dimensions. All of them are meant to help preparations for the Interim Report to be issued for the Informal Ministerial Council Meeting after our Annual Session in July.

We have once more circulated the Report of the PA's 2005 Washington Colloquium as well as pertinent extracts of PA resolutions. The German and Swiss Delegations have supported our request for an inclusion of these documents in the informal Corfu debates. In addition, the Chairmanship has circulated a contribution (PA.GAL/1/10) in which I put these documents into the Corfu context, based on my experience in Vienna. It remains to be seen how all of this can be synthesized into one document. Unfortunately, not everything is submitted with the aim of strengthening mutual trust and cooperation. Instead some papers and early discussions have been characterized by confrontational approaches by delegations from East and West of Vienna, especially regarding the Human Dimension.

Ámbassador May 7, 2010