

2nd day of the Twelfth Meeting

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**DECISION No. 11/04
COMBATING CORRUPTION**

The Ministerial Council,

Reiterating that corruption represents one of the major impediments to the prosperity and sustainable development of the participating States, that undermines their stability and security and threatens the OSCE's shared values,

Determined to further intensify efforts in the implementation of existing OSCE commitments on combating corruption, as reflected in the Charter for European Security adopted at the 1999 OSCE Istanbul Summit and the OSCE Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension adopted in Maastricht in 2003,

Reaffirming its commitment to make the elimination of all forms of corruption a priority and to implement effective and resolute measures against corruption, including through the implementation of relevant national legislation and programmes,

Recalling that the fight against corruption requires the adoption by the participating States of a comprehensive and long-term anti-corruption strategy,

Acknowledging the important work on this issue done by other international organizations, in particular by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the Council of Europe (CoE) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD),

Recognizing that the United Nations Convention against Corruption, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 31 October 2003 in New York, marks a major step forward in international co-operation against corruption and provides the opportunity for a global response to the problem,

Encourages the OSCE participating States, which have not yet done so, to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Corruption as soon as possible, in order to ensure its rapid entry into force, and implement it fully.

Tasks the OSCE Secretariat, in particular the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA), upon the request of the OSCE participating States, to provide support in mobilizing technical assistance, including necessary expertise and resources, from relevant competent international organizations, with due regard to their respective mandates, in the ratification or/and the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.