



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

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1154th Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 1262
2017 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE**

(Palermo, Italy, 24 and 25 October 2017)

The Permanent Council,

Welcoming the offer by Italy to host the 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference, and further to discussions with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation,

Decides to reschedule the 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference in Palermo, Italy, for 24 and 25 October 2017;

Adopts the agenda, timetable and organizational modalities of the Conference, as contained in the annex.

This decision supersedes Permanent Council Decision No. 1245 of 9 March 2017 on the dates and venue of the 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference.

AGENDA AND ORGANIZATIONAL MODALITIES OF THE 2017 OSCE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE ON LARGE MOVEMENTS OF MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Palermo, Italy, 24 and 25 October 2017

I. Indicative agenda

Introduction

OSCE Ministerial Decision No. 3/16 on the OSCE's role in the governance of large movements of migrants and refugees addresses the issue of large-scale movements of migrants and refugees and anchors migration management to the OSCE agenda. The decision makes a specific reference to "reinforcing activities leading to the exchange of best practices and enhancing dialogue and co-operation with Partners for Co-operation".

Against this backdrop, the 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference and in particular its high-level political segment will focus on the topic of large movements of migrants and refugees across the Mediterranean and on the challenges, such as security-related issues, as well as opportunities they entail for countries on all shores of the basin and beyond, with a view to turning consequent emergencies and crises into opportunities for renewed regional and international co-operation.

The first session will delve into the increased risks for smuggling and trafficking in human beings arising from large movements of refugees and migrants.

The second session will be devoted to the opportunities arising from migration and the role of integration policies for growth, sustainable development, peace and stability.

The third session will delve into the core of successful integration as a common responsibility based on a twofold approach, with a focus on combating all forms of intolerance, racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, also based on religious grounds.

The Conference will provide the participating States and Partners for Co-operation with an opportunity to exchange views, experiences, best practices, and lessons learned with a view to exploring together successful co-operative approaches to the issues posed by increased migration and refugee flows both in transit and receiving countries. The Conference will also serve as a platform to further develop dialogue and enhance co-operation for the sake of enhancing security in the Mediterranean, in line with the OSCE principles and commitments.

Tuesday, 24 October 2017

- Registration of participants
- Opening remarks
- High-level political segment on advancing Mediterranean security and co-operation in an age of large movements of migrants and refugees: challenges, including security related issues, and opportunities
- Photo opportunity
- Chairmanship of the Mediterranean Contact Group's side event
- Lunch
- Session I: Countering smuggling and trafficking in human beings: a major common challenge in time of large movements of migrants and refugees
- Coffee break
- Session II: The economic and social potential of migration and the role of integration policies for inclusive growth, sustainable development, peace and stability

Wednesday, 25 October 2017

- Registration of participants
- Session III: Successful integration, a common responsibility based on a two-fold approach: encouraging social inclusion of migrants and refugees and combating intolerance, racism, xenophobia, and discrimination, also based on religious grounds
- Concluding remarks
- Closing lunch

II. Participation

The Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation (Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Morocco and Tunisia) will participate in and contribute to the Conference. The Asian Partners for Co-operation (Afghanistan, Australia, Japan, the Republic of Korea and Thailand) will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference.

The OSCE institutions and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference. The following international organizations and institutions will be invited to participate in and contribute to the Conference: Adriatic Ionian Initiative, African Development Bank, African Union, Central European Initiative, Collective

Security Treaty Organization, Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, Council of Europe, Economic Co-operation Organization, Eurasian Economic Union, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, European Investment Bank, European Union, Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States, 5+5 Dialogue on Migration in the Western Mediterranean, Financial Action Task Force, International Centre for Migration Policy Development, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance, International Labour Organisation, International Monetary Fund, International Organization for Migration, Islamic Development Bank, Inter-parliamentary Union, League of Arab States, Mediterranean Forum, Middle East and North Africa Region Financial Action Task Force, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, OPEC Fund, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organisation for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Organization of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation, Organization of Islamic Cooperation, Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Regional Co-operation Council, Shanghai Cooperation Organization, Southeast European Co-operative Initiative, South Eastern Europe Co-operation Process, Union for the Mediterranean, UN Habitat, United Nations, UN Al-Qaida Sanctions Monitoring Team, United Cities and Local Governments, UNICEF, UN Counter-Terrorism Committee, United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, United Nations Development Programme, United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, United Nations Environment Programme, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, UN Women, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, and the World Bank.

Additional organizations may be invited by the host country to observe the Conference.

Representatives of non-governmental organizations may be invited by the host country to attend and may be invited to contribute to the Conference in accordance with the relevant OSCE provisions and practices (advance registration required).

Other countries may be invited by the host country to attend and may be invited to contribute to the Conference.

III. Organizational Modalities

The Conference will begin at 9.30 a.m. on the first day and end at 2 p.m. on the second day.

Each session will have a moderator and a rapporteur appointed by the Chairperson. The consolidated summary will be forwarded to the Permanent Council for further consideration.

Appropriate arrangements for press coverage will be made.

The 2017 OSCE Mediterranean Conference will be held in English, French and Italian with interpretation. This arrangement will not constitute a precedent that can be relied upon in other circumstances.

The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE will be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, at the Conference. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (Permanent Council Decision No. 762) will be taken into account.