



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Ministerial Council
Helsinki 2008**

MC.DEC/4/08
5 December 2008

Original: ENGLISH

Second day of the Sixteenth Meeting
MC(16) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

**DECISION No. 4/08
STRENGTHENING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE OSCE**

The Ministerial Council,

Guided by our common goal to strengthen the legal framework of the OSCE,

Pursuant to the relevant decisions of the 1992 Helsinki Summit, of the 1992 Stockholm Council Meeting and of the 1993 Rome Council Meeting,

Referring to Brussels Ministerial Decision No. 16/06 on Legal status and privileges and immunities of the OSCE and the attachments to it,

Expressing its appreciation to the informal working group at expert level tasked by that Ministerial Decision for its valuable work in 2007, as well as taking note of the Round Table discussion on 22 October 2008 in Vienna under the auspices of the Finnish Chairman-in-Office,

Stressing the importance of the OSCE's acquiring international legal status,

Tasks the Chairman-in-Office, in consultation with the participating States, to pursue a dialogue on strengthening the legal framework of the OSCE and to report to the Ministerial Council meeting in Athens in 2009.

MC.DEC/4/08
5 December 2008
Attachment

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Armenia (also on behalf of Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan):

“The delegations of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan joined the consensus on the decision on strengthening the legal framework of the OSCE on the understanding that the tasking of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office to pursue dialogue on strengthening the legal framework of the Organization meant that work would begin on the draft Charter of the OSCE.

We are referring to the draft Charter of the OSCE elaborated and proposed on 18 September 2007 by the delegations of the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan (PC.DEL/897/07), which may be taken as a basis for further work.

We confirm our position that the draft Charter of the OSCE and the convention on the legal personality, legal capacity and privileges and immunities of the OSCE should be adopted at the same time.”

We request that this interpretive statement be attached to the decision adopted and be included in the journal of the meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council.