

CSCE
SEVENTH MEETING OF THE
COMMITTEE OF SENIOR OFFICIALS
PRAGUE 1992

JOURNAL NO. 2

2nd DAY OF THE SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE

1. Date: Friday, 28 February 1992

Opened: 11.40 a.m.
Suspended: 3.25 p.m.
Resumed: 4.40 p.m.
Suspended: 5.30 p.m.
Resumed: 6.20 p.m.
Closed: 6.35 p.m.

2. Chairman: Mr. J. Kubis (Czech and Slovak Federal Republic)

3. Subjects discussed:

Agenda item 3: Consideration of the interim report on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh

Agenda item 4: Examination of the human rights situation in Yugoslavia and need for further action

Agenda item 5: Current issues

Agenda item 6: Working methods of the CSCE Council and of the Committee of Senior Officials

Agenda item 7: Date of the Eighth Meeting of the Committee of Senior Officials

Agenda item 8: Any other business

4. Statements:

Agenda item 3: Chairman (organizational matters), United States of America, Germany, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Russian Federation, France, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic

In connection with decision (a), the delegation of Azerbaijan made the following statement which it requested to be recorded in the Journal:

"It is very important that we all together reached consensus on the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh of the Azerbaijan Republic. It is not the territorial changes or changes of frontiers that are in question here, but rather the guarantees of human rights. This fully corresponds to the humanistic nature of the CSCE process."

Agenda item 4: Switzerland, Hungary, Holy See, Portugal-European Community, Austria, Denmark, Albania, Russian Federation, Germany, Yugoslavia, Greece, Italy, Bulgaria

Agenda item 5: Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania, Turkey

Agenda item 6: Denmark, Malta, United States of America, Italy, Sweden, Norway

Agenda item 7: United Kingdom, Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, Austria, Germany, Malta

Agenda item 8: Director of CSCE Secretariat, Chairman, Portugal-European Community, Germany, Italy, Malta, United Kingdom, United States of America, Estonia

5. Decisions:

- (a) Under Agenda item 3 (Consideration of the interim report on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh), the Committee adopted the text annexed hereto (Annex 1). It was agreed that the text should immediately be made public by the Secretariat.
- (b) The Committee adopted the attached text entitled: "CSCE Human Rights Rapporteur Mission to Yugoslavia: Follow-up Mission" (Annex 2). It was agreed that the text should immediately be made public by the Secretariat.
- (c) The Committee of Senior Officials decided that its next regular Meeting would take place in the second half of July, to pursue decisions taken at the Helsinki Summit Meeting.

The Chairman-in-Office may, at his discretion, call a Meeting of the CSO during the Helsinki Follow-up Meeting should this prove necessary.

Notwithstanding the provisions of section I, paragraph B.4, of the Supplementary Document to the Charter of Paris, and of paragraph 2.8 of Annex 2 of the Summary of Conclusions of the Berlin Council Meeting, any CSO meeting which is convened during the Helsinki Follow-up Meeting will, exceptionally and due to practical considerations, take place in Helsinki.

- (d) In order to enable the Director to meet the outstanding expenses of the CSCE Secretariat, the Committee agreed to urge those participating States which had not already done so to ensure that the arrears of their contributions to the 1992 Budget of the CSCE Secretariat due on 1 January 1992 be paid as soon as possible, and to recommend all States to pay immediately their contributions to the said Budget due on 1 April 1992. It was understood that the Director of the CSCE Secretariat would approach delegations on this question as a matter of urgency (see CSCE Communication No. 72 dated 12 February 1992).

6. Interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final

Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations:

In connection with decision (a), under item 5 of this Journal, the delegation of Armenia made the following statement:

"Armenia has no territorial dispute with Azerbaijan.

The Government of the Republic of Armenia considers that the question of Nagorno-Karabakh must be resolved in conformity with the principle of the right of peoples to self-determination and respect for human rights.

Armenia, as an interested third party, considers that the opening of negotiations between the representatives of the democratically elected authorities of Nagorno-Karabakh and those of the Government of Azerbaijan is the only route to the solution of this problem.

Armenia will support, to this end, all initiatives aimed at establishing such a dialogue and will make every effort to ensure that the negotiations are successful."

7. Next meeting:

Second half of July 1992, in Prague (see also second paragraph of decision (c) under item 5 above)

Chair: Czech and Slovak Federal Republic

CSCE Human Rights Rapporteur Mission to Yugoslavia: Follow-up Mission

Referring to the Summary of Conclusions of the Prague Meeting of the CSCE Council, the CSCE Committee of Senior Officials examined the need for further action concerning the human rights situation in Yugoslavia. The Committee agreed that the human rights situation, including the situation of national minorities, requires further consideration and follow-up action by the CSCE. To that end, the Committee decided to send a follow-up mission to the Human Rights Rapporteur Mission to Yugoslavia as established by decision of the Committee on October 22, 1991 in Prague. The follow-up mission will examine further the situation in the previously visited Republics and give particular attention to the subjects mentioned for consecutive action in the first report.

The Mission will not take place before the end of April and it will report to the Committee. The report will be circulated by the CSCE Secretariat through the CSCE points of contact and will be considered by the Committee at a future meeting. The report will be made available to the Chairman of the Conference on Yugoslavia.

(1) The Committee of Senior Officials noted the "Interim Report of the Rapporteur Mission on the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh".

The Committee of Senior Officials:

- (2) - urges the interested parties to impose an immediate cease-fire on all forces in the Nagorno-Karabakh area of the Azerbaijan Republic, the population of which expresses their will to enjoy all their rights including all those contained in the Principles of the Helsinki Final Act, and to implement fully their undertakings in the Communiqué issued by the Foreign Ministers of Armenia, Azerbaijan, and the Russian Federation in Moscow on 20 February 1992;
- (3) - underlines the fact that the presence in the area of groups of eminent persons from CSCE participating States will contribute to the establishment of an effective cease-fire and urges concerned parties to guarantee their safety and to take all necessary steps to this end;
- (4) - requests that all participating States and all states in the region impose an immediate embargo on all deliveries of weapons and munitions to forces engaged in combat in the Nagorno-Karabakh area, and inform the Conflict Prevention Centre of steps taken in this respect;
- (5) - urgently requests the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE to contact international and voluntary organizations with appropriate resources to provide humanitarian assistance, and to encourage them to provide such assistance, both to the inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh, and to the refugees and displaced persons on both sides of this conflict, including those from the Republics of Armenia and Azerbaijan;
- (6) - requests that the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE convene representatives of the States concerned with a view to immediately establishing safe corridors for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to the inhabitants of Nagorno-Karabakh;

- (7) - requests the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE, in contact with the authorities of Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as local authorities and representatives in Nagorno-Karabakh, to promote, if necessary under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the immediate exchange of hostages;
- (8) - requests the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE, in conjunction with the authorities of Armenia and Azerbaijan, as well as local authorities and representatives in Nagorno-Karabakh, to promote, if necessary under the auspices of the International Committee of the Red Cross, the immediate return of remains of all the dead to their families for respectful burial.

(9) The Committee of Senior Officials, seeking a peaceful and lasting settlement to the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh in accordance with the Principles, commitments and provisions of the CSCE and the equal legitimate aspirations of all peoples concerned, agreed that this requires from all the concerned parties:

- (10) - respect for international obligations with regard to the rule of law, democracy and human rights including all those based on the Principles, commitments and provisions of the CSCE;
- (11) - guarantees for the rights of ethnic and national communities and minorities, in accordance with the commitments subscribed to in the framework of the CSCE;
- (12) - respect for the inviolability of all borders, whether internal or external, which can only be changed by peaceful means and by common agreement;

- (13) - commitment to settle by agreement all questions concerning regional disputes;
- (14) - guarantees for the absence of territorial claims towards any neighbouring State, including abstention from hostile propaganda activities that would, inter alia, promote such territorial claims.

The Committee of Senior Officials:

- (15) - requests participating States in the region, in particular Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, to continue their efforts to achieve a final and complete cease-fire and to promote negotiation among the parties in the framework of the CSCE and on the basis of CSCE principles;
- (16) - strongly urges the continuation of the dialogue among all interested parties, including local authorities from Nagorno-Karabakh and representatives of Armenian and Azeri inhabitants from Nagorno-Karabakh. Among the first issues to be discussed in this dialogue should be the question of observers to monitor the cease-fire, the immediate needs of the refugees and displaced persons, the re-establishment of normal trade relations, and the establishment of an independent commission, including third parties, to review further problems relating to the refugees and displaced persons;
- (17) - requests the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE to stand ready to participate in this dialogue, and, if requested by the parties, to pursue it under the auspices of the CSCE;
- (18) - requests the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE to contact the governments of CSCE participating States to determine whether it would be possible to provide a group of observers to monitor a cease-fire when it is established, and to make recommendations on this subject;

- (19) - calls the attention of the interested parties to the possibility of using the various CSCE mechanisms to facilitate progress toward a solution to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem, and, in this connection, the possibility of requesting the Chairman-in-Office of the CSCE to form an international advisory commission on constitutional questions;

- (20) - requests the CSCE participating States which may be able positively to influence the situation to report on progress toward a peaceful settlement at subsequent CSO meetings, in particular on the elements mentioned above;
- (21) - agrees that the possibility of additional missions to Nagorno-Karabakh to monitor the evolving situation will be considered whenever useful.