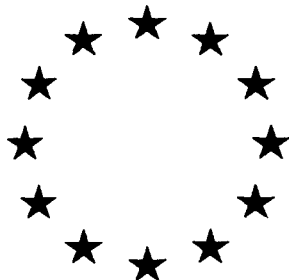


COUNCIL
OF EUROPE



CONSEIL
DE L'EUROPE

Committee of Ministers
Comité des Ministres

95th Session
(Strasbourg, 10 November 1994)

CMD008426

Strasbourg, 7 November 1994



Restricted
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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE,
MR IVAN STANCIOFF, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BULGARIA,
TO HIS COLLEAGUES

Dear Colleague,

The 95th Session of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe will be held in Strasbourg on Thursday 10 November 1994. It will focus on the enlargement of the Council of Europe and the future role of the Organisation. In a letter which he wrote to you on 26 October 1994, the Secretary General emphasised the particular importance of this meeting, looking ahead to the forthcoming accession of eight new member States. As this prospect approaches, it is essential that the Committee of Ministers spell out the appropriate response to a number of important questions relating to enlargement and its effects. The success of such an enlargement will enable the Council of Europe to achieve its true pan-European dimension.

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The programme for the Session appears at Appendix I to this Message. It will be preceded, at 8.30 pm on Wednesday 9 November, by a dinner given for Ministers or Heads of Delegation, Permanent Representatives and Political Directors, by the Secretary General, Mr Daniel Tarschys, in the Council of Europe Restaurant.

In accordance with established practice, we shall hold a meeting of the enlarged Joint Committee (Colloquy) with representatives of the Parliamentary Assembly, at 8.30 am on Thursday 10 November 1994 in Room 5 of the Palais de l'Europe. The agenda for this enlarged Joint Committee on the same theme as our ministerial meeting appears at Appendix 2.

At 9.30 am, in the entrance hall of the Palais, we shall attend the ceremony of accession to the Council of Europe of the Principality of Andorra. The programme for this ceremony appears at Appendix 3 to this Message.

We shall then, at 10.00 am in the Committee of Ministers Meeting Room, have our informal meeting, which should cover the more political aspects of enlargement and the Council of Europe's future role. A short "Non-Paper" from the Chair on enlargement and the Council of Europe's future role is appended (Appendix 4) to stimulate the discussion, which I would wish to be as informal as possible.

I intend, in accordance with the wishes expressed by our Deputies, to devote as much time as necessary to this informal part, but to begin our formal meeting not later than 1.00 pm. The provisional annotated agenda forms CM(94)OJ2 prov. In the course of the formal meeting, we could deal with the report drawn up by the Ministers' Deputies on the implications of enlargement and also adopt the draft Declaration on compliance with the commitments accepted by member States of the Council of Europe, as well as reviewing developments concerning the protection of national minorities and the Plan of Action to combat racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and intolerance.

I would like to underline that our Deputies are continuing their work with a view to enabling us to adopt at the present Session, and following the Vienna Summit (8-9 October 1993), the framework Convention for the protection of national minorities, to decide to open it for signature, with a view to its signature at a later date to be determined, and to authorise publication of the Explanatory Report thereto. I hope that we can achieve a positive result.

At the end of our formal meeting we should adopt the Final Communiqué, a draft of which will be proposed by the Deputies' drafting group.

I intend to close the formal meeting at about 2.00 pm, to enable you to attend the buffet lunch to which I have the pleasure of inviting you in the Council of Europe Restaurant. The Permanent Representatives and Political Directors are also invited.

At about 3.00 pm, together with the Secretary General, Mr Daniel Tarschys, I shall hold a press conference in Room 301 of the European Press and Information Centre.

Looking forward to the pleasure of meeting you at this Session, I remain,

Yours sincerely.

APPENDIX 1

**PROGRAMME OF THE
95TH SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS**

(Strasbourg, 10 November 1994)

9 November 1994

8.30 pm Dinner hosted by the Secretary General
(Council of Europe restaurant)

10 November 1994

8.30 am Enlarged Joint Committee (Colloquy with representatives of the
Parliamentary Assembly) (Room 5)

9.30 am Ceremony to mark the accession of the principality of Andorra to
the Council of Europe
(Entrance hall and Council of Europe forecourt)

10 am Informal meeting followed by a formal meeting of the Committee
of Ministers (Committee of Ministers' room)

2 pm Buffet luncheon hosted by the Chairman of the Committee of
Ministers
(Council of Europe restaurant)

3 pm Press conference by the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers
and the Secretary General (European Press and Information
Centre) (Room 301)

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4.30 pm Exchange of views between Mr Alecos P. Michaelides, Minister
for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, new Chairman of the Committee
of Ministers, and the Ministers' Deputies (Committee of
Ministers' room)

APPENDIX 2

ENLARGED JOINT COMMITTEE / COLLOQUY

DRAFT AGENDA

of the meeting to be held
on Thursday, 10 November 1994 at 8.30 am
at the Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg
(Room 5)

1. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA [AS/CM-Mix (1994) OJ 5]
2. ENLARGEMENT AND FUTURE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
3. OTHER BUSINESS
4. DATE AND PLACE OF THE NEXT MEETING

APPENDIX 3

PROGRAMME FOR THE CEREMONY OF ACCESSION
TO THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF ANDORRA
(Strasbourg, 10 November 1994, Palais de l'Europe)

9.30 a.m. **Statement by Mr Daniel Tarschys, Secretary General.**

Deposit of the instrument of accession of the Principality of Andorra to the Statute of the Council of Europe by Mr Marc Vila Amigo, Minister for External Relations of the Principality of Andorra with the Secretary General and the signature of the Procès Verbal by the Minister for External Relations of the Principality of Andorra and by the Secretary General.

Signature by the Minister for External Relations of the Principality of Andorra of the European Convention on Human Rights and of Protocol No.11 to the Convention restructuring the control machinery established thereby.

Address by Mr Oscar Ribas Reig, Head of Government of the Principality of Andorra.

Address by Mr Ivan Stancioff, Chairman in Office of the Committee of Ministers, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria.

Address by Mr Miguel Angel Martinez, President of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Main hall of the Palais de l'Europe

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9.50 a.m. **Ceremonial hoisting of the flag of the Principality of Andorra. National anthem of the Principality of Andorra.**

European anthem.

Forecourt of the Palais de l'Europe

10.00 a.m. **End of the ceremony.**
(approx.)

APPENDIX 4

ENLARGEMENT AND FUTURE ROLE OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

(Points for discussion proposed by the Chair)

I. POINT OF DEPARTURE : THE VIENNA SUMMIT

In the Vienna Declaration, the Heads of State and Government stated that "the Council of Europe is the pre-eminent European political institution capable of welcoming, on an equal footing and in permanent structures, the democracies of Europe freed from communist oppression. For that reason the accession of those countries to the Council of Europe is a central factor in the process of European construction based on our Organisation's values."

In the light of recent developments and discussions (including the Enlarged Joint Committee/Colloquy with members of the Assembly to be held in the morning of 10 November), are Ministers willing

- a. to confirm that the time has come to start discussions of arrangements for implementing the intention expressed by the Heads of State and Government to:
 - "render the Council of Europe fully capable of thus contributing to democratic security" as well "as meeting the challenges of society in the 21st century", and
 - achieve "fuller co-ordination of activities with those of other organisations involved in the construction of a democratic and secure Europe"?

- b. to confirm that the problems and difficulties faced by the countries of Central and Eastern Europe in the process of reforms should be approached as another source of the pressing need for their speedy integration into the European structures among which the Council of Europe has the high responsibility to play a pioneering role?

II. THE NEW PAN-EUROPEAN DIMENSION AND ITS IMPLICATIONS :

1. The priorities of a more active political role of the Council of Europe as a factor for establishing a vast area of democratic security and stability on the continent in the context of its enlargement and in particular:

- strengthening the position of the Council of Europe as a forum for political concertation in the framework of the Pan-European dimension;
- preventive role with respect to sources of tension, through the specific means, methods and activities of the Council of Europe;
- the modalities for efficient utilisation of the Organisation's potential in the framework of initiatives related to the problem of stability on the continent (ex.: the Pact on Stability in Europe).

2. The enlarged Council of Europe in the European architecture.

In line with the orientations given by the Vienna Summit, relations of complementarity have progressed between the Council of Europe and other organisations, notably CSCE, and should be intensified.

The role of the European Union in assisting the Council of Europe to attain its present objectives.

3. Timetables

Candidatures must be examined individually and on their own merits. The eight current applicant countries fall into three categories:

- i. Baltic, that is Latvia, where the Assembly's favourable opinion seems assured for January 1995;
- ii. Balkan (Albania, Croatia, "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia")

Following the second round of legislative elections (30 October) in the last-mentioned country, cooperation and political dialogue will be further strengthened; for Albania and Croatia, favourable Assembly opinions during 1995 appear a realistic possibility;

iii. CIS countries (Belarus, Moldova, Russian Federation and Ukraine)

Discussions, at the 94th (May 1994) Session of the Committee of Ministers, and subsequently, have centred on the Russian Federation, but following the mid-September 1994 visits by the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and Secretary General to Chichinau, Kiev and Minsk, there is increasing recognition that the European vocation of the countries concerned is equal to Russia's.

CONCLUSION :

Do the Ministers agree that Council of Europe membership would attain about 40 members by late 1995/early 1996?

III. STRATEGIES

1. The sensitive issue of the balance between political motivation and fundamental values of the Council of Europe in the process of enlargement and beyond:

- the role of political will and compromise in relation to the options for expanding the territorial scope and the influence of the Council of Europe;
- the price and risks entailed.

2. Preservation and promotion of the Council of Europe identity.

The Organisation must remain faithful to its values and vocation and remain the principal guardian and promoter of Democracy, Human Rights and the Rule of Law.

- Further development of the existing functions and possible new functional implications.
- The balance within the Organization.

3. Means and Resources

— Programmes of cooperation -both before and after accession- aimed at achieving and/or strengthening the necessary standards;

— specific instruments such as the reformed European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR) control mechanism, the Declaration on compliance with commitments accepted by member States, anti-torture Convention, etc.;

— Budgetary matters. What additional resources should be envisaged to the relevant Council of Europe structures, mechanisms and programmes, on a scale commensurate with that of its enlargement to include the particularly sensitive (and potentially still unstable) countries and regions mentioned above?

Taking into account the above-mentioned problems are changes in the Statutory and other rules of the Council of Europe needed?