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CAHDI (2007) 1

**COMMITTEE OF LEGAL ADVISERS ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW
(CAHDI)**

**33rd meeting
Strasbourg, 22-23 March 2007**

**DECISIONS OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
CONCERNING THE CAHDI**

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the Directorate General of Legal Affairs

1. CM/Del/Dec(2006)974/1.6E / 02 October 2006

Follow-up to the Third Summit Action Plan: Message of the Committee of Ministers to committees involved in intergovernmental co-operation at the Council of Europe

The Deputies

1. adopted the message of the Committee of Ministers to committees involved in intergovernmental co-operation at the Council of Europe concerning follow-up to the Third Summit Action Plan, as it appears at Appendix 2 **[see below]** to the present volume of Decisions;
2. asked the Secretary General to address the message to all the committees concerned and to issue the necessary instructions to the Secretariat for appropriate follow-up action to be taken;
3. asked the Chair to forward the message to the Parliamentary Assembly, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and the Conference of INGOs holding participatory status with the Council of Europe, for information.

Message of the Committee of Ministers to committees involved in intergovernmental co-operation at the Council of Europe

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 September 2006
at the 974th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

On 28 September 2005 the Committee of Ministers adopted a message addressed to all committees involved in intergovernmental co-operation, in which it:

- stressed that the implementation of the decisions taken at the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government, as reflected in the Warsaw Declaration and the accompanying Action Plan, constituted the top political priority for the Committee of Ministers (and the Council of Europe as a whole) in the months and years to come;
- asked all the committees concerned to bear their due share of responsibility for implementing the Action Plan according to their respective fields of competence, adapting their own priorities to those of the Action Plan as from 2006 in the light of budgetary constraints, and informing the Committee of Ministers – via its competent rapporteur groups – of the measures taken and the actions carried out in this regard;
- noted the commitment of the Secretary General to give priority to, and maintain the focus of the entire Secretariat's activity on, the implementation of the Action Plan;
- expressed its confidence in the co-operation and commitment of its institutional partners within the Council of Europe, in particular the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, when it came to rising to the joint challenge of implementing the decisions of the Third Summit quickly and effectively.

Since September 2005, the Committee of Ministers has placed emphasis on a number of priority issues where the political interests at stake were of particular importance and the expectations as to results was greatest. These are consolidation of the Council of Europe's system of human rights safeguards, relations between the Council of Europe and the European Union, enhancement of Council of Europe action to further democracy and good governance, fostering intercultural dialogue, and giving fresh impetus to the process of internal reforms aimed at more efficient and transparent functioning of the Organisation. All this has not made it lose sight of the importance of moving ahead with the accomplishment of the Summit decisions as a whole, and in particular its core objective of preserving and promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

Accordingly, the Committee of Ministers has decided to prepare, for the 117th Ministerial Session in May 2007, a comprehensive report on the implementation of the Summit decisions. It therefore invites the steering committees and the committees of experts involved in intergovernmental co-operation to contribute, with the Secretariat's assistance, to the preparation of this report, intensifying their activities in pursuance of the Action Plan and supplying the appropriate information on what has been, is being and will be done to help achieve this fundamental objective. In this respect it expects steering committees and expert committees to conduct a critical evaluation of the work carried out in recent years, both in terms of its relevance (i.e. to the Organisation's fundamental values) and its value-added (both intrinsically and in relation to the work of other international organisations or other committees of the Council of Europe).

Contributions should reach the Committee of Ministers during the 1st quarter of 2007, in good time (according to the timetable of its rapporteurs and/or working groups) to be considered by the competent subsidiary groups of the Committee of Ministers with a view to forwarding the contributions to the Follow-up Committee on the Third Summit, responsible for preparing the report to the 117th Ministerial Session.

The "road map" for following up the Action Plan of the Third Summit, as updated in the light of the developments which have occurred since September 2005, is appended.

Appendix

Road-map for the implementation of the Action Plan

I – PROMOTING COMMON FUNDAMENTAL VALUES: HUMAN RIGHTS, RULE OF LAW AND DEMOCRACY

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable ¹
1. Ensuring the continued effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights We shall ensure the long-term effectiveness of the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms by all appropriate means. To this end we shall provide the European Court of Human Rights with the necessary support and implement all the reform measures adopted at the 114th Session of the Committee of Ministers in May 2004, in accordance with all the modalities foreseen. This includes, as envisaged, the ratification of Protocol No. 14 to the Convention, which is essential for the future effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights. At national level, we shall ensure that: - there are appropriate and effective mechanisms in all member states for verifying the compatibility of legislation and administrative practice with the Convention; - effective domestic remedies exist for anyone with an arguable complaint of a Convention violation; - adequate training in Convention standards is fully integrated in university education and professional training; therefore, we decide to launch a European programme for human rights education for legal professionals and call on member states to contribute to its implementation. The Committee of Ministers shall review implementation of these	CM-SUIVI3, GR-H CL-CEDH CDDH May 2007 (report to the 117th CM Session)

¹ With regard to Committee of Ministers and its subsidiary groups, the structures mentioned are those currently in existence. An update will occur if the proposals for reform which are under discussion are adopted.

measures on a regular and transparent basis.	2nd half of 2007 (HELP programme interim report)
We establish a Group of Wise Persons to consider the issue of the long-term effectiveness of the ECHR control mechanism, including the initial effects of Protocol No. 14 and the other decisions taken in May 2004. We ask them to submit, as soon as possible, proposals which go beyond these measures, while preserving the basic philosophy underlying the ECHR.	CM-SUIVI3 Group of Wise Persons Late 2006 (final report)
We underline that all member states must accelerate and fully execute the judgments of the Court. We instruct the Committee of Ministers to elaborate and implement all the necessary measures to achieve this, notably with regard to judgments revealing structural problems including those of a repetitive nature.	CM (DH meetings) CDDH

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
2. Protecting and promoting human rights through the other Council of Europe institutions and mechanisms As the primary forum for the protection and promotion of human rights in Europe, the Council of Europe shall – through its various mechanisms and institutions – play a dynamic role in protecting the right of individuals and promoting the invaluable engagement of non-governmental organisations, to actively defend human rights.	CM / GR-H CDDH
We undertake to strengthen the institution of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, which has proven its effectiveness, by providing the necessary means for the Commissioner to fulfil his/her functions, particularly in the light of the entry into force of Protocol No. 14 to the European Convention on Human Rights.	CM DH Commissioner
We shall continue to support the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) and the unique role it plays, through its visits to places of detention, in improving the conditions of detained persons. We also ask for regular updates of the European Prison Rules as the basis for the setting-up of standards in prisons. The Council of Europe will assist member states to ensure their implementation.	CM / GR-H CPT CDPC
We will intensify the fight against racism, discrimination and every form of intolerance, as well as attempts to vindicate nazism. We shall therefore give the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) the means to carry out its work, in close co-operation with national authorities and institutions as well as civil society in member states. We welcome ECRI's role in identifying good practices as well as its general policy recommendations, and we decide to disseminate them widely. We will ensure co-ordination of its activities with equivalent ones in the European Union and the OSCE and other relevant international bodies.	CM / GR-H, GR-EXT ECRI CMJ (Youth Campaign)
We recall the decision taken at the Strasbourg Summit “to step up co-operation in respect of the protection of all persons belonging to national minorities”. Europe's chequered history has shown that the protection of national minorities is essential for the maintenance of peace and the development of democratic stability. A society that considers itself pluralist must allow the identities of its minorities, which are a source of enrichment for our societies, to be preserved and to flourish. We therefore encourage the Council of Europe to continue its	CM / GR-H and GR-J Control mechanisms of the Minorities Framework Convention and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages CDDH

activities to protect minorities, particularly through the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and to protect regional languages through the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages.	
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Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
3. Strengthening democracy, good governance and the rule of law in member states We will strive for our common goal of promoting democracy and good governance of the highest quality, nationally, regionally and locally for all our citizens and pursue our ongoing fight against all forms of totalitarianism. We decide, within the existing structures of the Organisation as a whole, to:	CM / GR-DEM
- establish, a Council of Europe Forum for the Future of Democracy to strengthen democracy, political freedoms and citizens' participation, keeping in mind <i>inter alia</i> the conclusions of the Barcelona Conference from 17 to 19 November 2004. It shall be open to all member states and civil society, represented by policymakers, officials, practitioners or academics. It shall enable the exchange of ideas, information and examples of best practices, as well as discussions on possible future action. The Forum will act in close co-operation with the Venice Commission and other relevant Council of Europe bodies with a view to enhancing, through its reflection and proposals, the Organisation's work in the field of democracy;	CM-SUIVI3 / GR-DEM Advisory Board of the Forum for the Future of Democracy October 2006 (2nd Forum plenary meeting, Moscow) June 2007 (3rd Forum plenary meeting, Sweden) 2008 (4th Forum plenary meeting, Spain) 2009 (5th Forum plenary meeting, Ukraine) 2010 (6th Forum plenary meeting, Armenia)
- pursue, in partnership with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, intergovernmental co-operation on democracy and good governance at all levels; - develop further transfrontier co-operation, as necessary, and standards of democracy and good governance, including proper functioning of our civil services;	CM / GR-DEM, GR-J and TC-LARC GT-TRANSREG CDLR PACE Congress End of 2006 (GT-TRANSREG Final Report)
- take the necessary steps, including through the establishment within the Secretariat of a centre of expertise on local government reform, to implement the Agenda for delivering good local and regional governance, adopted at the 14th session of the Conference of European Ministers responsible for local and regional government (Budapest, 24-25 February 2005), by promoting standards and good practices and by assisting member states with capacity-building at the local and regional level, in close co-operation with the Congress;	TC-LARC CDLR Congress
- enhance the participation of NGOs in Council of Europe activities as an essential element of civil society's contribution to the transparency and accountability of democratic government.	CM / TC-ONG INGOs Conference CDCJ

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
We reiterate our commitment to guarantee and promote freedom of expression and information and freedom of the media as a core element of our democracies. We therefore attach particular importance to the work carried out by the Council of Europe in this area and we fully support the Declaration and Action Plan adopted at the 7th European Ministerial Conference on Mass Media Policy (Kyiv, 10-11 March 2005). We encourage co-operation between the Council of Europe and the OSCE in this area.	CM / GR-H, GR-DEM CDMC
Equal participation of both women and men is a crucial element of democracy. We therefore confirm our commitment to achieving real equality between women and men. We will strengthen gender mainstreaming in national policies, elaborate guidelines and methods for further progress in equality between women and men, promote the setting up of national equality mechanisms, and enhance the implementation of the United Nations' Beijing Platform for Action.	CM / TC-EG CDEG
We call on member states to make use of the advice and assistance of the European Commission for Democracy through Law ("Venice Commission") for the further development of European standards in particular in the field of the functioning of the democratic institutions and electoral law. To ensure the implementation of European standards at national level it should step up its co-operation with constitutional courts and courts of equivalent jurisdiction which play a key role in this respect.	CM / GR-J, GR-DEM Venice Commission
We will make full use of the Council of Europe's standard-setting potential and promote implementation and further development of the Organisation's legal instruments and mechanisms of legal co-operation, keeping in mind the conclusions of the 26th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Helsinki, 7-8 April 2005).	CM / GR-J CDCJ CDPC
We decide to develop the evaluation and assistance functions of the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ) and to make proper use of the opinions given by the Consultative Council of Judges of Europe (CCJE) in order to help member states to deliver justice fairly and rapidly and to develop alternative means for the settlement of disputes.	CM / GR-J CEPEJ + CCJE CDCJ
Nationality law in all its aspects, including the promotion of acquisition of citizenship, as well as family law are focus points of the Council of Europe. The Council, as the suitable international organisation, will continue to develop its action in these fields of law.	CM / GR-J CDCJ
4. Ensuring compliance of the commitments made by member states and promoting political dialogue The Council of Europe is a Europe-wide political forum which brings together member states committed to promoting democratic debate and the rule of law.	

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
We will continue our common efforts to ensure strict compliance with the commitments of member states to the common standards to which they have subscribed. Standard-setting in the field of justice and other relevant areas of law as well as non-discriminatory monitoring processes should continue to be used to help member states address the problems and develop their legal systems. Monitoring must, as necessary, be accompanied by Council of Europe assistance and technical support. In this context, we encourage continued co-operation in the training of judges and law enforcement officials.	CM / GR-DEM + monitoring meetings CDCJ
The Council of Europe should continue to foster a fruitful dialogue in its Committee of Ministers and Parliamentary Assembly. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe must continue to promote local democracy and decentralisation, taking into account the internal organisation of the countries concerned, so as to reach all levels of European society. The political dialogue should exploit the potential of the Organisation in promoting mutual understanding among member states, thus strengthening the unity in Europe and contributing to the commitment of building Europe without dividing lines.	CM / GR-DEM PACE Congress
To this end, the Council of Europe, in co-operation with the European Union, will continue to promote the exchange of good practices as far as free movement of persons is concerned, with a view to further improving contacts and exchanges between Europeans throughout the continent.	CM / GR-J CDCJ
5. Broadening the role of the Council of Europe Development Bank We request the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB), while confirming its traditional role on behalf of populations in distress and of social cohesion, also to facilitate, through its own means of action, the implementation of policies which aim at the consolidation of democracy, the promotion of the rule of law and respect for human rights, notably in the field of training of magistrates, civil servants and other participants in public life, as well as in the organisation, operation and infrastructure of administrative and judicial public services.	CEB

II – STRENGTHENING THE SECURITY OF EUROPEAN CITIZENS

1. Combating terrorism We strongly condemn terrorism, which constitutes a threat and major challenge to our societies. It requires a firm, united response from Europe, as an integral part of the worldwide anti-terrorist efforts under the leadership of the United Nations. We welcome the new Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism opened for signature during the Summit and draw attention to other instruments and documents that the Council of Europe has drawn up so far to combat terrorism. We call on all member states to respect human rights and to protect victims when combating this scourge, in accordance with the guidelines drawn up by the Council of Europe in 2002 and 2005 respectively.	CM-SUIVI3, GR-J and GR-H CODEXTER COSTER CDPC CDDH CDCJ
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We will identify other targeted measures to combat terrorism and ensure close co-operation and co-ordination of common anti-terrorist efforts with other international organisations, in particular the United Nations.	
2. Combating corruption and organised crime The Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) has proved its effectiveness. Accordingly, we urge those member states that have not already joined it to do so as soon as possible and to ratify the criminal and civil law conventions on corruption. Since corruption is a worldwide phenomenon, the Council of Europe will step up its co-operation with the OECD and the United Nations to combat it on a global level. An increase in the membership of GRECO and its further enlargement to non-member states of the Council of Europe would help achieve this goal.	CM-SUIVI3, GR-J GRECO
We also commend the work undertaken by MONEYVAL for monitoring anti-money-laundering measures, including the financing of terrorism. MONEYVAL should continue to strengthen its ties with the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF) under the aegis of the OECD. We welcome the revision of the 1990 Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and the opening for signature of the revised Convention at the Summit. We call for its signature and ratification. The Council of Europe will continue to implement its technical assistance programmes for interested member states. It will also support strengthened international co-operation in the fight against transnational organised crime and drug trafficking.	CM-SUIVI3, GR-J MONEYVAL CDPC

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
3. Combating trafficking in human beings We firmly condemn trafficking in human beings which undermines the enjoyment of human rights and is an offence to the dignity and integrity of the human being. We welcome the opening for signature at the Summit of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and call for its widest possible ratification and swift entry into force. This is a major step in the fight against trafficking. It will strengthen the prevention of trafficking, the effective prosecution of its perpetrators and the protection of the human rights of the victims. The independent monitoring mechanism set up by the Convention will ensure its effective implementation by the Parties. We will ensure close co-operation between the Council of Europe, the United Nations, the European Union and the OSCE in this field.	CM-SUIVI3, TC-EG GRETA Follow-up Committee (following the entry into force of the Convention)
4. Combating violence against women The Council of Europe will take measures to combat violence against women, including domestic violence. It will set up a task force to evaluate progress at national level and establish instruments for quantifying developments at pan-European level with a view to drawing up proposals for action. A pan-European campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence, will be prepared and	TC-EG CDEG Task Force Late 2006 and beyond

conducted in close co-operation with other European and national actors, including NGOs.	(campaign to combat violence against women)
5. Combating cybercrime and strengthening human rights in the information society We confirm the importance of respect for human rights in the information society, in particular freedom of expression and information and the right to respect for private life. The Council of Europe shall further elaborate principles and guidelines to ensure respect for human rights and the rule of law in the information society. It will address challenges created by the use of information and communication technologies (ICT) with a view to protecting human rights against violations stemming from the abuse of ICT. We will also take initiatives so that our member states make use of the opportunities provided by the information society. In this connection the Council of Europe will examine how ICT can facilitate democratic reform and practice. The Council of Europe shall also continue its work on children in the information society, in particular as regards developing their media literacy skills and ensuring their protection against harmful content. We condemn all forms of ICT use in furthering criminal activity. We therefore urge all member states to sign and ratify the Convention on Cybercrime and to consider signature of its Additional Protocol concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems, the first binding international instruments on the subject.	CM / GR-J CDMC CDPC Cybercrime Convention Committee 2005-2007 (Three year Project on "Good Governance in the Information Society")

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
6. Promoting ethics in biomedicine The Council of Europe shall continue its standard-setting work on bioethics. We encourage the signing of the Protocol on Transplantation, the adoption of provisions corresponding to the recommendations on xenotransplantation and further work on the use of genetic testing outside the medical field, entailing discrimination in access to employment and insurance.	CM / GR-J CDBI
7. Promoting sustainable development We are committed to improving the quality of life for citizens. The Council of Europe shall therefore, on the basis of the existing instruments, further develop and support integrated policies in the fields of environment, landscape, spatial planning and prevention and management of natural disasters, in a sustainable development perspective.	CM / GR-C CDPAT CO-DBP STRA-CO STRA-REP T-PVS CEMAT

III – BUILDING A MORE HUMANE AND INCLUSIVE EUROPE

We are convinced that social cohesion, as well as education and culture, are essential enabling factors for effective implementation of Council of Europe core values in our societies and for the long-term security of Europeans. The Council of Europe will therefore promote a model of democratic culture, underpinning law and institutions and actively involving civil society and citizens.

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
1. Ensuring social cohesion The Council of Europe will step up its work in the social policy field on the basis of the European Social Charter and other relevant instruments. The central task is to jointly define remedies and solutions which could be effective in fighting poverty and exclusion, ensuring equitable access to social rights and protecting vulnerable groups. The Council of Europe, acting as a forum for pan-European co-operation in the social field, will work out recommendations and promote exchange of best practices in these areas as well as strengthen assistance to member states.	CM / GR-SOC and GR-H CDCS Social Charter Committees
We instruct the Committee of Ministers to appoint a high-level task force to review the Council of Europe strategy to promote social cohesion in the 21st century, in the light of the Organisation's achievements in this field. Policies to promote social cohesion must take account of the challenges posed by ageing and other social and economic developments.	CM–SUIVI3, GR-SOC High-level Task Force CDCS CDMG CDSP Public Health Partial Agreement (CD-P-SP, CD-P-RR) November 2007 (Final Report of the High-level Task Force)

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
We agree that protection of health as a social human right is an essential condition for social cohesion and economic stability. We support the implementation of a strategic integrated approach to health and health-related activities. In particular, the work on equity of access to care of appropriate quality and services which meet the needs of the population of our member states will be intensified. Identifying standards for patient-oriented care will be a key component of this activity.	CM / GR-SOC CDSP
We confirm our commitment to combat all kinds of exclusion and insecurity of the Roma communities in Europe and to promote their full and effective equality. We expect that the European Roma and Travellers Forum will allow Roma and Travellers to express themselves with the active support of the Council of Europe. Steps will be made to establish co-operation among the Council of Europe, the European Union and the OSCE in this field.	CM / GR-SOC, GR-EXT CDMG Roma Forum
We will consolidate the Council of Europe's work on disability issues and support the adoption and implementation of a ten-year action plan designed to make decisive progress in ensuring equal rights for people with disabilities.	CM / GR-SOC Public Health Partial Agreement (CD-P-RR) [CAHPAH]

2. Building a Europe for children We are determined to effectively promote the rights of the child and to fully comply with the obligations of the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. A child rights perspective will be implemented throughout the activities of the Council of Europe and effective co-ordination of child-related activities must be ensured within the Organisation. We will take specific action to eradicate all forms of violence against children. We therefore decide to launch a three-year programme of action to address social, legal, health and educational dimensions of the various forms of violence against children. We shall also elaborate measures to stop sexual exploitation of children, including legal instruments if appropriate, and involve civil society in this process. Co-ordination with the United Nations in this field is essential, particularly in connection with follow-up to the optional protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography.	CM-SUIVI3, in conjunction with GR-SOC, GR-J, GR-H and GR-C CDPC CDCS CD-ED 2006 to 2008 (three-year programme for children)
3. Education: promoting democratic citizenship in Europe The tasks of building a knowledge-based society and promoting a democratic culture among our citizens require increased efforts of the Council of Europe in the field of education aimed at ensuring access to education for all young people across Europe, improving its quality and promoting, <i>inter alia</i>, comprehensive human rights education.	CM / GR-C

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
We will make full use of the opportunity to raise public awareness of European standards and values provided by the "European Year of Citizenship through Education". The Council of Europe shall build on its work on language learning and recognition of diplomas and qualifications. It shall continue to play an important role in the Bologna process aimed at creation of European Higher Education Area by 2010. It will actively promote co-operation and networking in the field of education and student exchanges at all levels. The Council of Europe will enhance all opportunities for the training of educators, in the fields of education for democratic citizenship, human rights, history and intercultural education. It will promote relevant intercultural programmes and exchanges at secondary school level, both within Europe and with neighbouring countries.	CM / GR-C CDED CDHER
The Council of Europe will also further develop its network of schools of political studies with a view to promoting European core values among the new generations.	CM / GR-DEM
4. Developing youth co-operation We will intensify our efforts to empower young people to actively participate in democratic processes so that they can contribute to the promotion of our core values. The Council of Europe Youth Centres and the European Youth Foundation are important instruments to this effect. We will integrate a youth perspective in all Council of Europe activities. To promote diversity, inclusion and participation in society,	CM / GR-C CMJ

we decide to launch a Europe-wide youth campaign, in the spirit of the "European Youth Campaign against racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance" (1995). The Council of Europe will further develop its unique position in the youth field. It will continue to assist member states in developing national and local policy instruments and actively promote youth exchanges and youth mobility in Europe.	June 2006 to September 2007 (Youth Campaign)
5. Protecting and promoting cultural diversity Respect for, and promotion of, cultural diversity on the basis of Council of Europe values are essential conditions for the development of societies based on solidarity. The Council of Europe will therefore develop strategies to manage and promote cultural diversity while ensuring the cohesion of societies. We support the adoption by UNESCO of a convention on cultural diversity. We will foster dialogue on the role of culture in contemporary Europe and define ways to support diversity and artistic creativity, defending culture as a purveyor of values. Steps will be taken to enhance access to cultural achievements and heritage by promoting cultural activities and exchanges.	CM / GR-C CDCULT CDPAT

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
6. Fostering intercultural dialogue We shall systematically encourage intercultural and interfaith dialogue, based on universal human rights, as a means of promoting awareness, understanding, reconciliation and tolerance, as well as preventing conflicts and ensuring integration and the cohesion of society. The active involvement of civil society in this dialogue, in which both men and women should be able to participate on an equal basis, must be ensured. Issues faced by cultural and religious minorities can often be best addressed at the local level. Therefore, we ask the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe to be actively involved in these issues and promote best practices. We will strengthen co-operation and co-ordination both within the Council of Europe and with other regional and international institutions. To this effect, a coordinator for intercultural dialogue shall be appointed within the Council of Europe to monitor in co-operation with existing structures the implementation of the Organisation's practical programmes and ensure co-ordination with other institutions. Convinced that dialogue between cultures is also fostered by accurate understanding of history, we endorse the Council of Europe's work in history teaching and related projects, and decide to intensify our efforts in this direction. We encourage more active involvement of civil society in this work. We are committed to a new dialogue between Europe and its neighbouring regions – the southern Mediterranean, the Middle East and Central Asia – based on the above-mentioned principles. We recognise the role of the North-South Centre in promoting this dialogue, as well as its mission of fostering European awareness of intercultural and development issues.	CM-SUIVI3, GR-C Steering Committees acting under the Cultural Convention CDDH CDMC CDMG PACE Congress IONG Conference CoE Co-ordinator on Intercultural Dialogue North-South Centre End of 2007 (publication of the Council of Europe White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue) 2008 (European Year on intercultural dialogue)

7. Promoting sport We attach great importance to the effective operation of the Anti-doping Convention and the European Convention on Spectator Violence and Misbehaviour at Sports Events and in particular at Football Matches, which are reference texts in international law. In line with the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation R (99)9 on the role of sport in furthering social cohesion, we recommend the continuation of Council of Europe activities which serve as references in the field of sport.	CM / GR-C Doping and violence convention committees
8. Managing migration We are aware of the importance of population movements within Europe and from other continents to Europe. Management of this migration is a major challenge to 21st-century Europe. We therefore consider that the Council of Europe should pursue its activities in this sector, in co-operation with the European Union, to contribute to a more balanced management of migration Europe-wide.	CM / GR-SOC CDMG

IV- FOSTERING CO-OPERATION WITH OTHER INTERNATIONAL AND EUROPEAN ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

We are strongly committed to ensure close co-operation and co-ordination in international action, in particular on the European scene. The Council of Europe, the European Union and the OSCE will therefore work in enhanced synergy and complementarity based on their respective competency and expertise.

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
1. Relations with the European Union Considering the important contribution of the Council of Europe to democracy, cohesion and stability in Europe, we call on the Council of Europe to: - strengthen its relations with the European Union so that the Council of Europe's and the European Union's achievements and future standard-setting work are taken into account, as appropriate, in each other's activities;	CM / GR-EXT
- strengthen co-operation with the European Union in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms, the promotion of pluralistic democracy and the rule of law; - strengthen co-operation with the European Union in areas of common interest, in particular in the legal, cultural, youth and social fields, including through joint programmes and co-operation with specialised Council of Europe bodies, such as the Venice Commission, the Committee for the Prevention of Torture, the Group of States against Corruption, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance, the Commissioner for Human Rights and the European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice.	CM / GR-EXT

A Memorandum of Understanding will be drafted between the Council of Europe and the European Union to create a new framework of enhanced co-operation and political dialogue. Particular focus should be put on how the European Union and its member states could make better use of available Council of Europe instruments and institutions, and on how all Council of Europe members could benefit from closer links with the European Union.	CM-SUIVI3 End of 2006
2. Relations with the OSCE We encourage the Council of Europe to step up and rationalise co-operation with the OSCE, on the basis of their specific tasks and comparative advantages, while avoiding duplication of effort. In particular, we call for closer co-operation with the OSCE in the priority fields identified by the Coordinating Group and subsequently adopted by the governing bodies of the two organisations, starting with the fight against terrorism, the protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, action against trafficking in human beings and the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination. In this connection, we welcome the appended joint Declaration on enhanced co-operation between the Council of Europe and the OSCE.	CM / GR-EXT Co-ordination Group CoE / OSCE September 2006 (4th meeting of the Co-ordination Group)

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
3. Relations with the United Nations We encourage the Council of Europe to step up co-operation with the United Nations and its specialised agencies, in order both to promote the universal values shared by the member states of the Council of Europe in the human rights field and to achieve the United Nations Millennium Development Goals in Europe, including, in particular, everyone's entitlement to live in a balanced, healthy environment.	CM / GR-EXT

V – IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN – A TRANSPARENT AND EFFICIENT COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Items of the Action Plan	Procedures / Timetable
We instruct the Committee of Ministers to take steps to ensure that this Action Plan is rapidly implemented by the various Council of Europe bodies, in conjunction where applicable with other European or international organisations. As an urgent priority, we task the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General, assisted by independent expertise, to give fresh impetus to the reform process of the Council of Europe's organisational structures and working methods. Building on efforts already in hand, the process shall aim at an efficient functioning of the Organisation according to its objectives and keeping fully in mind the need for budgetary restraints. Special attention should be paid to initiatives that will further secure transparency, cost-efficiency as well as internal co-operation and knowledge sharing.	GT-REF.INST, in conjunction with GR-AB and TC-PROG

This reform process will be subject to regular progress reports to the Committee of Ministers. It will be discussed at the Ministerial Session in May 2006.

May 2007 (report to the 117th CM Session)

2. CM/Del/Dec(2006)981/10.7E / 29 November 2006

Joint OSCE-Council of Europe Expert Workshop on Preventing Terrorism: Fighting Incitement and Related Terrorist Activities (Vienna, 19-20 October 2006) – Summary

Decisions

The Deputies

1. took note of the summary of the Joint OSCE-Council of Europe Expert Workshop on Preventing Terrorism: Fighting Incitement and Related Terrorist Activities (Vienna, 19-20 October 2006), as contained in document CM(2006)204 rev, and transmitted it to the Committee of Experts on Terrorism (CODEXTER), the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH), the Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI), the European Committee for Social Cohesion (CDCS), the Steering Committee for Education (CDED) and the Steering Committee for Culture (CDCULT), to be taken into account in their work and to report back;
2. agreed to resume consideration of the follow-up to be given to the above-mentioned workshop in the light of the proposals to be made by CODEXTER.

3. CM/Del/Dec(2006)981/10.1E / 1 décembre 2006

Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI)

- b. Draft specific terms of reference for 2007-2008**
- c. Abridged report of the 32nd meeting (Athens, 13-14 September 2006)**

Decisions

The Deputies

1. approved the specific terms of reference of the Committee of Legal Advisers on Public International Law (CAHDI), as they appear at Appendix 3 to the present volume of Decisions;
2. took note of the abridged report of the 32nd meeting of CAHDI, as it appears in document CM(2006)171, as a whole.