

2nd day of the Twelfth Meeting

MC(12) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 9/04
ENHANCING CONTAINER SECURITY

The Ministerial Council,

Reaffirming the OSCE participating States' commitment to prevent and combat terrorism,

Recalling the participating States' obligations under United Nations Security Council resolutions 1373 (2001) and 1566 (2004), as well as the commitments in the Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism and the OSCE Charter on Preventing and Combating Terrorism,

Recognizing the vulnerability of transport networks, the important role container shipping plays in the global economy, the OSCE's ability to work effectively with governments, representatives of business and civil society, and the importance of enhancing container security,

Recognizing the need to minimize any adverse effects on the free flow of commerce of enhanced container security, and that enhanced container security will promote international trade and economic co-operation,

Decides that OSCE participating States will act without delay in accordance with their domestic legislation, and necessary resources available, to enhance container security, based on best practices and on norms and standards to be agreed internationally;

Tasks the Secretary General to organize an experts' workshop in early 2005 to discuss container security developments, raise awareness, exchange information on best practices and explore possibilities for the OSCE participating States to promote and enhance container security, in co-operation with other relevant international organizations;

Tasks the Permanent Council to follow up on the results of the experts' workshop with a view to recommend further action, if appropriate, in co-ordination with the International Maritime Organization, the World Customs Organization, the International Air Transport Association and the International Civil Aviation Organization and other relevant international organizations, and to report to the 2005 Ministerial Council.