

Comment by the Information and Press Department on Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's participation in the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers meeting

Category: Press Release (Newsletter) Saturday, 09 June 2018 15:36 Written by Vladimir I Poluektov Hits: 477

---

A regular meeting of the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers will take place in Almaty under the chairmanship of Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan Kairat Abdrakhmanov on June 11. In accordance with the established procedures, such meetings are usually held twice a year.

On the eve of the meeting, on June 10, the heads of the delegations will meet for a working dinner to discuss issues of mutual interest.

By tradition, the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers meeting will be held both in the restricted and expanded formats.

The meeting's agenda consists of 12 items.

The ministers will discuss foreign policy coordination in the CSTO and urgent issues of international and regional security. They are expected to adopt a Russia-drafted joint statement on the developments around the INF Treaty.

The ministers will conduct an involved exchange of views on countering current cross-border challenges and threats, primarily, from terrorist organisations.

The ministers will also discuss the CSTO's peace initiatives in the context of its Secretariat's Roadmap (Action Plan) on creating conditions for using the CSTO's peacekeeping potential in the interests of the UN international peacekeeping missions (from 2018 to 2021).

The ministers plan to analyse the status of the ongoing work on developing the CSTO legal contractual basis, adopt a plan of foreign policy, security and defence consultations for representatives of the CSTO member countries for the latter half of 2018 and the first half of 2019, and endorse a list of foreign policy joint statements of the CSTO member states in 2018, which is drafted every year on the basis of their proposals on collective instructions to the CSTO permanent representatives at international organisations. The ministers also plan to adopt a number of documents that will be submitted for consideration by the heads of state of the CSTO member countries at a regular CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers meeting in autumn.