



**Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE**

Statement
on OSCE related developments in Belarus

As delivered by Permanent Representative Ihor Prokopchuk
to the 846st meeting of the Permanent Council,
13 January 2011

Mr. Chairman,

A month ago in Astana the leaders of the OSCE participating States reaffirmed their adherence to all OSCE commitments and responsibility to implement them fully and in good faith. They also reiterated the crucial role of the OSCE and its institutions in assisting participating States with implementing their OSCE commitments.

In this regard, Ukraine highly appreciates the efforts of the Lithuanian OSCE Chairmanship in transferring these pledges into action, in particular with regard to Belarus, our good neighbour and an OSCE partner.

OSCE is an organization, where States participate as sovereign and independent States and in conditions of full equality. This means that they carry equal responsibility for the implementation of their OSCE commitments.

Belarus is a full-fledged member of the OSCE, who plays an active role in the work of our Organization.

Belarus has also enjoyed broad practical support on the part of the OSCE in institution building and in other areas, which contributed to further social and economic development of the country. The OSCE Office in Minsk has been implementing useful projects in the country, the results of which, in our view, should not be lost.

My country benefits from the joint project activities with the OSCE, which are administered by the Project Coordinator in Ukraine, and we are ready to share our experience of pragmatic and mutually beneficial cooperation.

We believe it is in the common interests of Belarus and the OSCE to continue constructive and forward-looking cooperation. We support the efforts aimed at finding a mutually acceptable format of cooperation between the OSCE and Belarus in the field.

Ukraine, as an OSCE partner and a future OSCE Chairmanship is prepared to contribute to furthering such cooperation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.