

**Turkish Delegation
to the OSCE**

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Session 3: "Comprehensive Security, a Strategic Approach"

General:

The threats to security and stability in the OSCE area have been extensively analyzed and classified within the framework of the Strategy document that was adopted at the 2003 Maastricht Ministerial Council meeting.

It will be recalled that the Strategy document has tasked the ASRC to identify and analyze new threats and challenges as well as to initiate development of additional response measures against them.

We believe that the Strategy document provides a well-structured presentation of the threats to our common security and stability. It also draws attention to the changing nature of these threats and demonstrates that many of today's most prevalent threats originate from non-state actors, such as terrorist organizations and crime syndicates, which frequently resort to asymmetrical means to pursue their illegal and treacherous agendas. Providing an effective and coordinated response to these challenges should be an important priority of our organization.

However, while concentrating on countering these asymmetrical threats, we should not overlook the fact that some of the long-standing frozen conflicts continue to pose a challenge to our common peace, security and stability in the OSCE area.

Nor should we lose our hope and optimism that a peaceful resolution of these conflicts is possible. Indeed, we should always bear in mind that their peaceful resolution is a precondition for the establishment of real security and stability in the OSCE geography. In particular, resolution of the frozen conflicts in the Caucasus, arguably the most volatile region in the OSCE area, should be a priority task of the Organization.

Cross-dimensional aspects of security & ways to combat it:

Security no longer has merely military connotations. It encompasses human, economic and environmental aspects of security as well. The interrelated, interactive character of security-related subjects further complicates the nature of risks and threats to security. Combined with the impact of globalization, these risks and threats transcend OSCE borders and as Mr. Rasmussen pointed out in his keynote speech, return as a boomerang to the region of origin. These facts require a comprehensive strategy to counter such challenges.

The synergy created through the activities of relevant international organizations and cooperation among them is increasingly valued. Close coordination of security related

activities of the OSCE, EU and the NATO is necessary not only to avoid duplication but also to benefit from the comparative advantages of each organization and to utilize their synergies.

It is true that, as Mr. Shamsur has also alluded to, the enlarged EU and NATO comprise nearly half of the OSCE participating States and this fact may have an effect on the OSCE itself. However, we still have reasons to believe that the OSCE will maintain its relevance as the only regional organization which covers Russia and Ukraine, as well as strategic regions such as Central Asia and Caucasus in its membership structure.

Trafficking in human beings:

Trafficking in human beings is a serious threat which cuts across all three dimensions of security. Therefore we attach utmost importance to keep this subject as a priority among the OSCE activities. It's with pleasure that we note the assignment of the Special Representative pursuant to the Maastricht Ministerial Decision. We hope this new assignment and the activation of the relevant unit within the Secretariat will give further impetus to the activities of the Organization to combat trafficking in human beings.

CSBMs & Pol-Mil Documents & OSCE mechanisms:

We greatly value OSCE documents and instruments for their contribution to contain risks and preventing them from turning into high level threats. The new risks requiring new mechanisms neither renders conventional threats less serious, nor CSBMs and documents such as 1999 Vienna Document less "relevant". Another significant factor which contributes to their continued relevance is the value participating States attach to their existence and their political will to fulfill the provisions of the documents fully and in a timely manner. Should we come across problems during implementation, it is our responsibility to focus on these specific problem areas and try to improve them.

The fact that the risk reduction and early warning mechanisms of the OSCE were not activated during recent years could by itself be considered as a success of the existence of these mechanisms. Yet another concrete contribution of the Organization to security lies with the flexible discussion atmosphere within the Permanent Council, which helps to facilitate peaceful resolutions of problems without activating those mechanisms.

Role of the FSC & Enhancing Security Dialogue:

We compliment the comprehensive work conducted within the FSC in the politico-military dimension of security. This is in fact a Forum where tangible results are achieved. We attach importance to the Security Dialogue. It would be to the benefit of the Organization to enrich the context of the Security Dialogue by practical and result-oriented topics of common concern. The threat of proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) and the measures to prevent WMD from proliferating constitute one such subject which we believe the OSCE can and should not stay indifferent, also because of its nexus with terrorism.

SALW:

OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) is considered consensually as a valuable tool of the Organization to control destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms. However, there is always room for further progress. With this understanding the FSC is conducting activities on separate yet related aspects of export control of SALW. End-user certificate is in the pipeline to be followed by preventing illegal brokering activities. Upon the completion of its works, the FSC is expected to have a set of good instruments on each of these subjects. We see merit in considering to initiate a study at the FSC to compile all these SALW related instruments and attempt to update the SALW Document where necessary. This makes more sense if we also attempt to streamline and clarify the SALW categories, which is one of the reasons of inconsistencies in the information exchange.

MANPADS:

We welcome the decision on OSCE Principles on Export Controls of MANPADS. This, in fact, constitutes a further step forward. In order to ensure transparency and accountability in implementation, it is essential that participating States fully comply with the provision on reporting transfers of MANPADS. Moreover, the FSC should continue to be the forum to review the implementation of the provisions of the decision regularly.

CFE Treaty:

In a session entitled “Comprehensive Security, a Strategy”, it would be remiss not to pay tribute to the unique contribution of the CFE Treaty to security and stability in Europe and to underline the continued relevance of the Treaty for European security in the future. We firmly believe that there is no alternative to this indispensable cornerstone of the European security architecture. We maintain our optimism that the conditions for the entry into force of the Adapted CFE Treaty will soon be created and that the Adapted Treaty will deservedly continue to serve as the incontestable anchor of the European security architecture.

Open Skies Treaty:

Last, but not least, we would like to underscore the positive contribution of the Open Skies Treaty to confidence and security throughout its area of application. Regarded as an intrusive and far-reaching legal document when it was signed in 1992, the Treaty has since made an invaluable contribution to openness and transparency among its States Parties. After 2.5 years of its full implementation, time is now ripe to consider expanding the Open Skies regime to other fields such as ecological and environmental protection. We support these new initiatives and look forward to the OSCC Ecological and Environmental Seminar that will take place in Vienna in October 2004. We also look forward to the first Review Conference of the Open Skies Treaty, scheduled for February 2005, during which the possibility of employing the Open Skies regime to facilitate the monitoring of compliance with arms control agreements and to strengthen the capacity for conflict prevention and crisis management is expected to be discussed.

Integration Processes:

We do not consider that the integration processes in Europe pose a threat to security and stability of other states. On the contrary, we believe that these processes help strengthen our common values, such as democracy, rule of law and respect for human rights, thereby making a notable positive contribution to peace, security and stability in Europe.