



ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ ЕҚЫҰ ЖАНЫНДАҒЫ ТҰРАҚТЫ ӨКІЛДІГІ
PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to OSCE,
Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov in response to Slovenian Foreign
Minister Dimitrij Rupel at the PC meeting, 24 January, 2008**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

First of all let me join others in welcoming Minister Dimitrij Rupel at today's Permanent Council meeting and thank him for his comprehensive information regarding Slovenian priorities during its EU Chairmanship for the first semester of 2008. And also thank very sincerely H.E. Mr. Minister for congratulating Kazakhstan with its forthcoming Chairmanship and continuous support on behalf of Slovenia

Kazakhstan supports active Slovenian start in presiding European Union and believes that forthcoming period will further strengthen relations among its members, neighbours and partners. We hope that Ljubljana will keep maintaining continuity and principles of partnership in guiding EU forward to our common goals. I would like to use this opportunity to commend Portugal for remarkable efforts and results during its able Chairmanship last year.

We have thoroughly considered Slovenian EU Presidency Programme and we wish to extend our continuous support to its priorities outlined in the document. Bearing in mind challenges we are all facing today it is very important to pay special attention to keep Western Balkans stable and sustainable part of the World. We call upon all parties involved to apply every effort to find out mutually beneficial solution to the Kosovo issue.

Kazakhstan upholds New European Integrated Climate and Energy Policy and stands ready to be actively involved into the process of combating and tackling climate change and its consequences.

We believe, that a slogan “Europe Cares for the Environment” is viable and solvable only if all partners are engaged in contributing the result-oriented dialogue among different regions and countries.

We also unequivocally support efforts of the European Union, as well as other partners from all parts of the World to enhance cooperation and interaction in combating new challenges and threats, such as international terrorism, organized crime, trafficking, etc.

Mr. Chairman,

As far as regional co-operation is concerned, we expect the national programme for each Central Asia country on realization of the EU Strategy for the region will be available soon. We believe those documents will adequately reflect our common goals and interests and look forward to having fruitful debates on the Strategy implementation in June 2008.

We are very much interested in expanding co-operation with EU in the sphere of regional security, regional integration, investments, technical assistance, education and training, energy dialogue, environment protection and many others. Special importance in our interaction we attach to the area of human rights protection, rule of law, good governance and democratization.

In conclusion I would like to wish to H.E. Minister Dimitrij Rupel and his team every success in their future endeavours and to express our sincere wish that Slovenian Chairmanship in EU will be as perfect as its OSCE Chairmanship. Please, do rely on our support.

Thank you.