



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT BY NORWAY IN RESPONSE TO THE SUSPENSION OF
THE PARTICIPATION OF THE RUSSIAN CHECHEN FRIENDSHIP
SOCIETY IN THE OSCE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON VICTIMS OF
TERRORISM**

OSCE Permanent Council, Vienna
20 September 2007

Mr. Chairman,

Norway attaches great importance to the active participation of NGOs in all appropriate fora and events of the OSCE, such as the recent High-Level Meeting on Victims of Terrorism. We would have wished that all NGOs that wanted to be present would have had the opportunity to do so, based on the modalities we all agreed on in the Helsinki 1992 document. We therefore share the concerns expressed by other delegations about the exclusion of the Russian Chechen Friendship Society from the meeting.

Thank you.