



PC.DEL/831/09  
23 October 2009

ENGLISH only

**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY,  
AMBASSADOR YUSUF BULUÇ  
AT THE  
777<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
(22 OCTOBER 2009)**

Madame Chair,

We warmly welcome to the Permanent Council H.E. Mr. Ušackas, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania. We consider it a privilege to have acquainted ourselves early on with our future source of political inspiration and guidance.

We have listened to the address of the Honorable Minister with attention and interest. While Minister's chancery in Vilnius would want to do a lot more work on the refinement of the text of the presentation by the Minister today before it acquires the status of CIO's opening address to the Permanent Council in the year 2011, we must still be thankful to him for giving us a foretaste of priorities and action that Lithuania will undertake. In the exercise of the Chairmanship the element of continuity will have to be balanced against the distinct Baltic hallmark that Lithuania would wish to imprint in the work of this Organization.

His presentation was inadvertently broad brush and sweeping, but deliberately comprehensive, spanning the whole gamut of our standing agenda and dimensions. I should be pleased to say that Lithuania's views on these matters, albeit tentative at this time, largely and happily coincide with our national assessments and priorities.

Minister's visit comes at a juncture where this organization oils its machinery to make sure that we are able to produce for our Ministers a resounding political message that the OSCE is alive and relevant. And also it comes on the heels of a highly animated discussion we held within the OSCE Corfu Process on the conflict prevention and resolution remit of the OSCE, a theme that the Minister has addressed in some detail.

Like you Mr. Minister, many of us have expressed lament and wariness over our distressful experience of August 2008. My country too remains concerned with its tragic consequences and seeks to remedy them, but also maintains the hope that this episode would lead us to draw the right instruction from it.

The outcome of the Athens Ministerial as well as the discussions that will ensue will hopefully result in a clear mandate for the next Chairmanships, including that of Lithuania, on how to carry this process further.

Minister Ušackas, in his speech, has also put a specific emphasis on the issue of regional and sub-regional cooperation, and refreshed our memories that the participating

States through the adoption of a set of OSCE documents have indeed assigned a mandate to our Organization in this regard.

Being the host to the last OSCE Summit in Istanbul in 1999 and the initiator of several regional integration and stabilization processes in the Black Sea and the Caucasus, I feel inspired to respond, hopefully with a complementary substance, to what Minister has said on the OSCE's value as a natural platform for regional and sub-regional cooperation.

Participating States through the Charter for European Security concluded at the Istanbul Summit and in particular through the Platform for Co-operative Security pledged themselves to further strengthening cooperation with competent organizations on the basis of equality and a spirit of partnership. We set out in the same document also the principles of the Platform for Cooperative Security to be applied across all dimensions of security; politico-military, human and economic. It is through this Platform and based on these principles that the OSCE seeks to develop and maintain political and operational coherence among all the various bodies dealing with security, both in responding to specific crises and in formulating responses to new risks and challenges. It has been a remit to which my country relentlessly sought to make a distinct contribution based on our own experiences.

For that scheme to be successful we must visualize mutually supportive and interlinked networks competing for bringing the highest level of stability to their respective enterprises, not zones of special influence or domination. They must also compete in promoting wealth and prosperity for their partners under a win-all formula. I agree with the Minister where he reminds us, in the context of the CBSS, that the political agendas may differ but partners look for synergies and mutual benefit, the essence of the search for cooperative security.

That we are modestly succeeding in the initiatives we took in spearheading the cooperative institutional concepts for the Black Sea and the Caucasus must give heart and incentive for other parts of OSCE geography, if you bear in mind that not just one but all of our so-called protracted conflicts reside in those areas. The daunting challenge of offering a common platform to conflicting parties to share is in and of itself a confidence building measure.

We thank the Minister again for his lucid presentation and would like to say that, while I shall not be here personally, Turkish delegation is eagerly looking forward to continue its contribution to the work of the OSCE under your political leadership.

Thank you.