

**TURKISH CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE  
(Vienna, 25-26 June 2003)**

**WORKING GROUP A**

**PREVENTING AND COMBATING TERRORISM**

- Terrorism is one of the gravest violations of human rights, first of all, the right to life. Therefore, our efforts both on the national and international level to eradicate terrorism from the face of the earth should be kept at the highest level. In accordance with our commitment, as enshrined in the OSCE Charter, we have to take measures needed to protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, especially the right to life, of everyone within our respective jurisdictions against terrorist acts.
- No country or international organization can succeed in this fight all by itself. Terrorists recognize no national or international boundaries to perpetrate their ruthless campaigns. Our resolve should be unified; our efforts must be concerted and co-ordinated.
- Since the tragic events of 9/11, OSCE, in accordance with its norm and standard setting function, has developed an impressive acquis. As a country who had enormously suffered from terrorism, we have tried on many occasions to bring this issue to the agenda of our organization. Despite the fact that our efforts did not yield the desired outcome in the past, at this very moment in time we are generally satisfied with the level of attention paid to combating terrorism within the OSCE.
- Our two distinguished keynote speakers provided us with an insight on where the international community in general and the OSCE in particular stand in this fight. Both speakers emphasized the importance of the involvement of all OSCE bodies and institutions. We completely agree with this assessment. Having in mind that terrorism could manifest itself in many faces; our endeavours should be complementary and balanced in order to be vigilant as required.
- Ambassador Black particularly highlighted the need to strengthen our resources at the organizational level. Using this opportunity, we would like to extend our thanks to the US to make Mr. Brian Woo available for our Action Against Terrorism Unit. We are convinced that our organization will highly benefit from having such a qualified person holding an important position. On the other hand, given the scale of the threat posed by terrorists to our security and stability and given the goals the OSCE has set for itself in meeting this threat, enhancing the capacity of the Action Against Terrorism Unit in terms of personnel and other resources becomes an urgent necessity that we have to meet as early as possible. We sincerely hope that this view will be shared by the rest of the OSCE community and that participating States will consider positively the relevant section of OSCE 2004 Budget Outline in the upcoming period.

- Both our speakers also pointed out the regional/sub-regional aspect in the field of combating terrorism. The OSCE, with its broad membership, would very much fit into the position of catalyzing co-operation and co-ordination in different regional and sub-regional levels. Central Asia sets an excellent example in that regard. OSCE participating States, together with the Secretariat, should continue their efforts in meeting the special security needs of this region vis-à-vis the terrorist threat, also in line with the commitments laid in the Bishkek Programme of Action. We welcome the steps taken so far in this direction in the form of training workshops and other similar activities in areas such as border security and preventing and combating trafficking in small arms and light weapons (SALW). We also welcome the information that Ambassador Aliyev shared with us regarding the steps taken by the Kazakh Government, as a proof of this country's readiness and willingness to co-operate with the international community in this fight.
- Speaking of the impressive OSCE acquis in preventing and combating terrorism, ensuring full and strengthened implementation of our commitments is a challenge that we have to face. In that regard, we believe that the establishment of an informal group to seek ways of assistance in the field of implementation to participating States was a timely and wise step to be taken by the OSCE Chairmanship. We are confident that with the help of the energetic efforts of our colleague Ambassador Oskarsson as its Chairperson, the work of this informal group will start bearing fruits in the near future.
- A large proportion of the contents of the report that we have in front of us today, prepared by the Secretariat, is being dealt with at the informal group. We welcome the discussions being held there and intend to continue participating actively in those discussions.
- One particular aspect that we have to pay due attention in the work of the informal group is that, while providing necessary care to the difficulties faced especially by countries in transition in the field of implementation, we should not overlook the situation in the rest of the OSCE geography. As also enshrined in the Bucharest Plan of Action, our efforts should be comprehensive. For instance, while we are dealing with the issue of creating necessary anti-terrorism legislation in ex-Soviet countries, we should not be forgetting how the terrorists recruit personnel or extort money from diasporas in the West by taking advantage of legislative or administrative vacuums.
- We also welcome the fact that co-operation with other international organizations is placed at the core of the Secretariat's report. Supporting the full implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1373 and contributing to the work of the UN Counter Terrorism Committee from a regional level is of primary importance. Thus, we think that the two proposals made recently by Ambassador Oskarsson as the Chairperson of the informal group, namely providing best practices and list of points of contact to the UNCPC are worth considering.
- On the other hand, as our experience shows from the information exchange about our replies to the FATF questionnaire, the international community could benefit from OSCE's support in fulfilling the commitments stemming from participating States' membership to other international organizations. In addition to implementation of UNSCR 1373 and becoming parties to 12 UN Conventions, we could consider introducing EU's arrest warrants for the whole OSCE region or helping those countries who are not parties to the European Convention on Extradition to do so.

Using the opportunity of being located in the same city as the UN Office for Drugs and Crime would be another wise step to take as also pointed out in the Secretariat's report. We should follow the developments in other international fora as closely as possible in order not to lag behind, but to complement and reinforce other international efforts.

- Combating terrorism is an enormous task. We should continue this fight in several fronts. In order to assess and evaluate how far we have come in this endeavour, we could work on the proposal made by our distinguished Co-ordinator to prepare a questionnaire. Such a questionnaire exists and is in use at present at the politico-military dimension; namely the Question 1 of the Code of Conduct Questionnaire on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. It was updated recently. A similar mechanism could be introduced for other dimensions. Such an undertaking would not necessarily duplicate the information exchange carried out in accordance with UNSCR 1373, but could include the implementation efforts carried within the OSCE context, in accordance with the OSCE acquis.
- Although we have come a long way in setting norms, standards and measures, there is no room for complacency. Threat of terrorism has an ever-changing nature and terrorists continuously change their methods and resort to different ways and means for their atrocities. Therefore, it is imperative that we should be open to develop new measures, "identify new instruments for action", "sustain our efforts and identify activities to be implemented immediately as well as over the medium and long term" as enshrined in Bucharest Plan of Action. For example, although Bucharest Plan does not task the OSCE bodies to revise their road maps, these road maps should be open to reviews and updates as the security conditions evolve. In that respect, we welcome the recent perception paper submitted by the FSC Troika to review the Forum's work on combating terrorism. This paper does not only take stock of what has already been achieved, but also puts a very relevant question: "what forms of additional initiatives should we take in order to combat terrorism?". FSC could answer this question within the context of the politico-military aspect of security. For example, preventing the proliferation weapons of mass destruction and keeping those weapons out of reach of the terrorists could be a further area for the FSC to consider. As briefly discussed at the last FSC Working Group B in the context of OSCE Strategy for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Threats, FSC could search for ways of intensifying and reinforcing global efforts in the field of weapons of mass destruction such as launching an information exchange within the context of Principles Governing Non-Proliferation.
- On the other hand, we would expect other OSCE bodies and institutions to act in a parallel manner; to review periodically the implementation of existing commitments and to identify new areas of co-operation and dialogue. We hope that this Conference will provide additional guidance.
- In conclusion, terrorism is a phenomenon that needs our constant attention. This is the only way to ensure safety and security of our people in the long run. We full heartedly believe that the OSCE, with its concept of comprehensive security and with a vast variety of instruments and mechanisms at its disposal, could contribute enormously to the success of the global fight against terrorism.

**FIRST ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

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**SPEAKING NOTES FOR WORKING GROUP A**  
**PREVENTING AND COMBATING TERRORISM**

- Turkey was one of the first countries to raise awareness at OSCE regarding the threat to security and stability terrorism poses.
- The OSCE was slow to react until 9/11. The OSCE cannot allow itself to be “wiser after the fact” on security issues if it wants to remain a relevant security organisation in Europe.
- Terrorism is a trans-national and multi-dimensional threat requiring collective, co-operative and multidimensional responses. This is where the OSCE, through its broad membership can bring value added.
- As in other areas of security dealt with by the OSCE, the first step has been to establish the normative framework for co-operation on combating terrorism. This has been largely achieved through the Bucharest, Bishkek and Porto documents.
- With the creation of the Anti-Terror Unit, the post of Senior Police Advisor, and the enhanced information exchange in the questionnaire on the Code Of Conduct the institutional framework for combating terrorism has also been significantly bolstered.
- Work at the FSC on SALW, excess ammunition stocks, as well as capacities developed within ODIHR to assist with anti-terrorist legislation complement the comprehensive approach of the OSCE in combating terrorism which is also closely linked to organized crime and trafficking. However, more needs to be done within the framework of the activities of the Economic Co-ordinator in order to address some of the root causes of terrorism such as poverty and social disintegration.
- The OSCE should work on four parallel venues to combat terrorism:

- a. Assist participating States that have not yet done so to adhere to all 12 UN conventions and protocols regarding terrorism.
  - b. Assist participating States in drawing up their counter-terrorism legislation.
  - c. Provide a regular venue for discussing implementation of OSCE counter-terrorism commitments and assist those participating States encountering problems in implementation.
  - d. Hold meetings with representatives of other Organisations dealing with combating terrorism in order to further define OSCE counter-terrorism priorities, streamline work for more effective allocation of resources.
- The OSCE requires no extra *acquis* at present in order to be able to make a substantial contribution towards combating terrorism. It is important at this stage to implement existing commitments and *acquis*. However, this can only be achieved if member States ask for assistance in a spirit of solidarity. The fact that up to date only one member State has asked for assistance does not augur well for the future.
- A common understanding on the interpretation of the international legal framework in combating terrorism is necessary. The OSCE could hold a seminar on harmonizing legislation. Legal loopholes should not allow terrorists safe havens and reprise from extradition.
- Before embarking on the more technical aspects of combating terrorism such as border security, particularly travel document security, sharing of information on lost or stolen passports, enhancing inter-state co-operation on border security issues, etc., a meeting with relevant Organisations such as Interpol and Europol should be organised in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and define how OSCE efforts could provide value added.
- If border security issues are going to be tackled within the OSCE, the acquisition and transfer over international borders by terrorist groups of fissile material or biological material should be addressed as an issue of priority.

- Another issue of priority should be monitoring the financial flow of terrorist groups and money laundering which has both anti-terrorist as well as organized crime aspects. Without financial resources be it clean money or dirty money, many large scale terrorist activities cannot take place.
- Finally, the OSCE can contribute to anti-terrorist activities by more robustly helping resolve disputes where non-State actors outside the purview of international legislation and accountability hold sway over territories uncontrolled by the central authorities.