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## PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

## Concluding remarks by H.E. Mr. Kassymzhomart Tokaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the 631<sup>st</sup> special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council (Vienna, 27 October 2006)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all distinguished Ambassadors and representatives of the OSCE participating States for your keen interest and great aspiration towards the policy of Kazakhstan and its priorities. My special thanks go to those who outlined outstanding comments for their very constructive and positive reactions toward my statement and kind words addressed to my country.

Let me highlight some remarks having a certain and topical importance on the issues raised.

As I indicated in my initial speech, the OSCE is a unique organization in terms of its geographical scope, cross-dimensional approach, wide oriented activities and enormous opportunities. But its special worth and meaning are both in consensus principle and in absolute equality of all participating States. This is a cornerstone of this multilateral institution we all respect for.

My country is fully committed to the observation of the high standards, principles and values of the OSCE. We uphold taken obligations in all three dimensions and will continue to be further adhered to them. The President and the Government of Kazakhstan spare no efforts in sustaining high living standards of our multiethnic people, protecting peace and stability, maintaining accord and harmony, developing a free and democratic society. The achievement of these goals is our utmost priority and task.

I am glad that everyone in this hall recognizes the progress made in Kazakhstan in the areas of economic reforms, political transformation of the society, democracy, the rule of law, and good governance.

At the same time I express disagreement with those who consider that these steps and actions are not enough to be the OSCE Chairman in Office in the year 2009. I think that our striving and inspiration should be welcomed and supported and our right respected as well. Kazakhstan is a young democracy but is a very dynamic one which is already impossible to push back or to suppress.

We look forward to the productive and impartial dialogue without politicizing this issue. This is our principal objective and we are looking forward to consider possible solutions.

I believe that now it is a truly unique chance for the Organization and all its participants to overcome existing obstacles, differences and differentialities demonstrating our common will to find a mutually acceptable solution for the good of all of us.

Thank you.