



PC.DEL/368/11
14 April 2011

ENGLISH only

***PERMANENT MISSION
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE***

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR NACI SARIBAŞ
(Special Permanent Council, 13 April 2011)**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,
Madam President, Your Excellency,

We warmly welcome You to the Permanent Council and express our appreciation for Your kind address. Your presence here today reconfirms the dedication of the Lithuanian Chairmanship, at the highest level, to the OSCE.

I would like to begin by congratulating Lithuania, under Your leadership, for the first 100 days of work and determination in this difficult task. The efforts of your able team are not only recorded as a success, but also consolidated our confidence for the improvement of our work in the months to come.

The Summit in Astana last December, which was held eleven years after Istanbul, played an important role in the history of our Organization in underscoring the indivisibility of our security while recommitting ourselves to the universal values of peace, democracy and human rights.

Lithuania, as the first Chairmanship entitled to pursue the tasking of the Astana Declaration, has a distinct and challenging responsibility in this regard. Challenges to our common security have evolved in recent years and continue to

become more complex. It is more than evident that our efforts in addressing them should be improved.

In this respect, we agree with Your assessment, Madam President, that Dialogue and Co-operation should serve as basic principles in our future endeavors. We are optimistic that the `V to V Dialogue` that we have already embarked upon, will yield positive results in addressing existing and potential challenges that lay ahead of us.

In the course of this dialogue, while acknowledging the need to be innovative in order to achieve tangible progress, Turkey believes that mutual understanding of our diverse opinions as well as result-oriented approach should be key components of our exercise.

I would like to underline the conviction of my Government that the OSCE needs to be able to foster concrete achievements in the settlements of the protracted conflicts. We should like to mark our appreciation for Your personal engagement in this regard and wish success during the period ahead.

Transnational risks and challenges pose another immediate threat, which can only be addressed through cooperation at the regional and international level. With its comprehensive concept of security, OSCE is well placed to constitute the forum for creating tools and capacities in combating terrorism, organized crime and all forms of trafficking.

Our commitments undertaken in the human dimension is important. We are confident that the tolerance and non-discrimination agenda of the OSCE will cherish the political attention of the Chairmanship since the rise in the

manifestations of xenophobia, racism and discrimination represent another challenge to our common security.

Madam President,

In concluding, allow me to reiterate once again that Turkey will continue to extend its support to the Lithuanian Chairmanship in its efforts to attain our common goals.

Thank you.