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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER GRUSHKO,
DEPUTY MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 2010 ANNUAL SECURITY
REVIEW CONFERENCE**

14 June 2010

Opening Session

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like first of all to join in the words of sympathy and condolence for all of the victims of the tragic events in Kyrgyzstan.

This year's Annual Security Review Conference has been accompanied by discussions in the framework of the Corfu Process. They have revitalized the Organization and given it back its core function as a platform for dialogue on key questions of security. We greatly appreciate the role played by the Kazakh Chairmanship, which has also guided these discussions ably and creatively. By and large we share the philosophy of the Chairmanship set out in a food-for-thought paper on the community of Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security. Without anticipating the specific results of the Corfu Process, which is far from being completed, we hope that it will help to strengthen the security space from Vancouver to Vladivostok while duly allowing for and respecting the legitimate security interests of all States in the region, regardless of their politico-military status. This would mark a real step towards full implementation of the principle of the indivisibility of security.

We are convinced of the need for legal consolidation of this core principle, since the format of political commitments is regrettably not working. It is equally important to guarantee its observance by international organizations operating in the Euro-Atlantic region so as to avoid fragmentation of the common security space. It is this very idea that is at the heart of the initiative by Mr. Dmitry Medvedev, President of the Russian Federation, for concluding a Treaty on European Security.

It is not possible to cover all aspects of security within the opening session. I shall dwell on some aspects that are of fundamental importance both for the States and the role of the OSCE. We note the revival of interest in the problem of arms control. After many years of stagnation there has been a real shift in the confidence- and security-building process. We are gratified to note the clearly prevailing mood regarding the reform of the Vienna Document 1999. We believe that it would be realistic to work towards completing the

modernization of this document in the form of a Vienna Document 2010 by the end of the year.

There is a need in the long term to create a system of reciprocal legal and political commitments in the OSCE area on arms control and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), as provided for in the 1996 Framework for Arms Control. We consider it important to consistently pursue this aim, particularly through the elaboration of a programme of future activities for arms control and CSBMs, which would provide guidelines for strengthening the OSCE's politico-military dimension. We have distributed a draft version of this programme as a basis for the elaboration of a new document. We hope that the breakthrough achieved by Russia and the United States of America in strategic arms limitation will serve as a stimulus for the arms control process at the global and regional levels.

Mr. Chairperson,

The history of the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian regions is one of conflicts.

Our common project of a single security space will remain unworkable as long as it continues to be torn apart by local conflicts.

Above all, we need to remain realistic: the international community has no magic recipe for resolving conflicts. This can be done reliably only by the conflicting parties themselves, negotiating together, but with the support of the international community.

Unfortunately, an international presence cannot work magic either. We saw this in 2008 when a country with commitments to the United Nations, OSCE and Council of Europe, with aspirations to join the European Union and NATO and host to various international missions on its territory subjected the civilian population and peacekeepers with an international mandate to a massive attack.

It is the States themselves that have the main responsibility for preventing conflicts and promoting peaceful relations. Neither international organizations nor their structures and institutions can perform this function. We should like to see the OSCE participating States elaborate uniform principles for the prevention and resolution of conflicts and for them to abide by these principles in their activities. The OSCE's anti-crisis potential will be in demand when it is based on consensus mechanisms that effectively ensure unity in terms of goals and tasks by all participants in the Organization. It is in this way that the OSCE must respond to the tragic events in Kyrgyzstan. It must be willing to give a State in trouble a shoulder to lean on. Any other kind of arrangement will only weaken the Organization and narrow the possibilities for early warning, crisis prevention and conflict resolution.

Mr. Chairperson,

Like many other countries, Russia is strongly affected by the threats of terrorism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and other types of organized crime. We have consistently spoken in favour of increasing the OSCE's potential to combat these phenomena. We are gratified to note the solid consensus within the OSCE on these issues.

We welcome the position of the United States of America and the European Union in favour of involving the OSCE in the fight against the threat of illegal narcotics. We propose the elaboration of an OSCE concept that would define the aims and principles underlying the co-operation by States and the type of contribution made by the OSCE to global efforts.

Finally, intensive and systematic co-ordination of the activities and co-operation by international and regional organizations involved in security issues should remain an integral part of modern security architecture. The OSCE has all the necessary instruments, above all the Platform for Co-operative Security adopted at the Istanbul summit in 1999, for it to play a leading role in this matter. I should like once again to draw attention to the initiative of convening a meeting of the directors/secretaries general of the OSCE, NATO, Collective Security Treaty Organization, European Union and Commonwealth of Independent States, which could possibly become a permanent event.

Thank you for your attention.