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**Statement by the Delegation of Azerbaijan  
at the Opening Session of the  
2010 Annual Security Review Conference**

Mr. Chairperson,

We welcome Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, Mr. Konstanin Zhigalov to the 2010 Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) and thank him for his interesting presentation.

Our delegation hopes that this year ASRC will give us another opportunity to review a number of issues that challenge the security and stability in the OSCE area and evaluate the efforts to tackle them.

We firmly believe that the main threats to the security in the OSCE area still are the protracted conflicts and their heavy consequences.

The soonest settlement of these conflicts should be permanently at the core of our Organization's activity.

We would like to underline that the goal towards the real and genuine European security, which is being discussed within the Corfu process, will be unachievable, if we tolerate the territorial claims, annexationist policy and violation of territorial integrity of states.

In this regard, let us remind that it is not accidental that the founding fathers of the OSCE specifically enshrined the principle of territorial integrity of states in the Helsinki Final Act, since it is cornerstone of state's very existence and constitutes an overarching pillar of the international legal system.

The OSCE should enhance its role in eliminating territorial claims and consequences of use of force against territorial integrity and sovereignty of states.

Our delegation agrees with the view that the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security and its membership of 56 participating States enables the organisation to contribute positively to fight against transnational threats and challenges.

In pursuing a goal of eradication of terrorism, trafficking in human beings, arms, drugs and money laundering, we should not also forget that these illegal activities are flourishing in so-called grey areas, in conflict zones, in territories of some participating States of the OSCE, not currently controlled by their legitimate authorities.

Last, but not least, arms control issues, which are directly linked to the concept of comprehensive, indivisible and cooperative security. It is very well known that treaties, commitments, decisions on arms control are seriously challenged and undermined by illegal acts of occupation and deployments. In the course of the ASRC, we are looking forward to discuss these issues as well.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.