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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR TACAN İLDEM,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY** ENGLISH only

**IN RESPONSE TO H.E. YURY FEDOTOV  
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE UNODC AND  
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE IN VIENNA**

**948<sup>TH</sup> PERMANENT COUNCIL**

**18 April 2013**

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to warmly welcome Executive Director Fedotov to the Permanent Council and thank him for his comprehensive presentation that addressed all pertinent issues of common concern for both of our organizations.

The elements contained in the presentation of Ambassador Fedotov attest to the importance of effective cooperation and coordination between the OSCE and the UNODC, which share common objectives in the fight against transnational threats, such as combating terrorism, illicit drugs, organized crime and corruption. There are complementarities in both organizations' work that allow for joint activities in order to benefit from comparative advantages. The global role of the UNODC in assisting UN member states by providing legal technical assistance and criminal justice capacity-building activities and the OSCE's capacities as a regional organization with a large field presence offer mutually reinforcing avenues of cooperation. In this respect, we look forward to the implementation of the Joint Action Plan that has been renewed recently between the two organizations.

The leading role of the United Nations, in particular the UNODC in combating the threat of illicit drugs is recognized in all major OSCE documents, not least in the "OSCE Concept for combating the threat of illicit drugs" adopted at the PC and endorsed at the Dublin Ministerial Council last year. Turkey is one of the leading countries in the fight against illegal trafficking of drugs, with a global strategy based on the principle that the issue can only be addressed by extensive cooperation, exchange of information and expertise within the international community.

Needless to say that combating illicit trafficking is only a part of the global drug problem and it is difficult to succeed in our efforts as long as illicit cultivation and demand remain high. With this in mind, we share the view that there is a need for pursuing a balanced approach to demand and supply in the fight against illicit drugs.

Madam Chairperson,

International cooperation in the field of fight against terrorism is an indispensable element for our efforts to be successful in this field. Turkey is one of those countries who has been deeply affected by this threat and has been striving for the adoption and implementation of adequate measures at the international level. In this respect, we appreciate the work done by the

UNODC to promote the ratification of universal legal instruments against terrorism, to support the drafting and review of national legislation in order to incorporate the legal standards of these international legal instruments and to build the capacity to implement them. There is more to be done by both organizations in the field of supporting regional and international cooperation in criminal matters, in particular in relation to requests for mutual legal assistance and extradition. I would also like to take this opportunity to commend the launch of the UNODC publication in Vienna last October on the Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes.

Combating international organized crime is yet another major challenge for the international community, which requires a coordinated international response and a close regional cooperation. Within this framework, there is still need for creating coordinated comprehensive national strategies, quick exchange of information and experience among law enforcement offices, increasing cooperation in the area of border security, and not least creating public awareness on transnational crime as a transnational security threat.

Madam Chairperson,

Before I conclude, I would like to thank Executive Director once again for his presence among us today, which has provided a valuable opportunity to compare notes between our organizations on a wide range of TNT issues. We look forward to the upcoming joint activities of the OSCE and the UNODC in areas of mutual interest. I wish all my best to Ambassador Fedotov in his future endeavors.

Thank you.