



**Delegation of Ukraine
to the OSCE**

ENGLISH only

Statement by the GUAM Member States in response to the address by the Secretary
General of the Council of Europe Mr. Terry Davis

As prepared for delivery by Deputy Permanent Representative Oleh Herasymenko
24 April 2008

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the GUAM Member States – Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The GUAM Member States join others in welcoming the Secretary General of the Council of Europe Mr. Terry Davis to the Permanent Council and thank him for his thought-provoking address.

As members of the Council of Europe and the OSCE, the GUAM countries value the complementary action of the two organizations in promoting security, peace and stability based on human rights, democracy and the rule of law throughout the region. The GUAM as well was founded on the same values and objectives, and we are fully committed to achieving them.

We attach great significance to the strengthened co-ordination and co-operation between the OSCE and the Council of Europe in the areas of common interest, taking into account their respective work in the field, the structures, instruments and working methods as well as the different nature and membership of the two Organizations, in order to make best use of their comparative advantages.

Our countries view the OSCE and the Council of Europe as natural partners in promoting shared values and norms in the four priority areas, identified in the Joint Declaration on Co-operation between the Council of Europe and the OSCE of 2005, such as the combat against terrorism, protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities, fight against trafficking in human beings and promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination. We also appreciate the joint election observation activities of the OSCE and the Council of Europe.

The GUAM Member States encourage further development of synergies and harmonisation of work of the two organizations in promoting implementation of our commitments to human rights and the rule of law throughout Europe and beyond.

Finally, we wish Secretary General Terry Davis the best of luck in his important work ahead.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman