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Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Belarus to the OSCE

**STATEMENT BY MR. VIKTAR GAISENAK,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS
TO THE OSCE, AT THE MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

21 October 2004

**Subject: Statement by Ambassador J. Ruperez, Executive Director of
the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee**

Mr. Chairman,

The Belarusian delegation welcomes Ambassador Ruperez to this meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council. We are grateful to him for his informative statement, which attests eloquently to the need to further intensify co-operation between the United Nations and the OSCE in combating terrorism.

The Republic of Belarus strongly condemns all manifestations of terrorism and fully supports multilateral efforts to counter it. We regard terrorism as the most serious threat to the present-day world.

Today, no sane person can remain unconcerned in the face of the repulsive acts of terrorism that are characterizing the beginning of the twenty-first century. Routine approaches to this evil will not be adequate. Non-traditional, long-term, comprehensive solutions are required. A key role must be played by the United Nations in the search for such solutions.

In our view, the United Nations Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) should become a practical and effective instrument for stopping the growth of international terrorism, strengthening the anti-terrorist coalition under the auspices of the United Nations, monitoring the implementation of the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolution 1373 and putting an end to the application of double standards to terrorists and terror. At a practical level, direct links between the Committee and regional organizations, such as the OSCE, can make a substantial contribution to the global anti-terrorist struggle under the United Nations flag.

In this connection, we see the adoption of Security Council resolution 1566 on the international struggle against the terrorist threat as an important development. This resolution calls upon relevant international, regional and subregional organizations to strengthen international co-operation in the fight against terrorism and to intensify their interaction with

the United Nations and, in particular, the CTC with a view to facilitating full and timely implementation of resolution 1373.

A striking example of close co-operation was the holding in Vienna on 11 and 12 March of the third meeting of international, regional and subregional organizations, organized jointly by the OSCE and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Mr. Chairman,

We believe that the struggle against terrorism will be successful if the ultimate goal shared by all of us is the construction of a just and humane world. Belarus is endeavouring to make its contribution to all dimensions of this struggle.

Thus on 1 October 2004, in New York, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Belarus, Mr. Sergei Martynov, handed over to the United Nations Secretary-General for safekeeping the documents confirming the accession of Belarus to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism. This means that Belarus has honoured its Bucharest commitments to the OSCE and acceded to all 12 United Nations instruments directed against terrorism.

We further believe that the activities of the OSCE aimed at countering international terrorism and eradicating its underlying causes must be strengthened. In our view, an important step in this direction would be the further development of the tools available to the OSCE, and particularly an increase in the financial resources and staff assigned to its Action against Terrorism Unit.

We also hope to see the adoption of a package of decisions directed at the prevention and combating of terrorism at the forthcoming meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council in Sofia.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.