

PC.DEL/492/10  
10 June 2010

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF  
INDEPENDENT STATES, AT THE 2010 ANNUAL SECURITY  
REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 14 to 16 June 2010

**Working Session I: Transnational threats and challenges**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Distinguished Conference participants,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the senior officials of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), I should like to thank the organizers for inviting me to take part in the work of such a representative forum.

OSCE annual conferences with an agenda similar to today's make a real contribution to extending dialogue on the most pressing problems of ensuring security and provide an opportunity for a wide-ranging exchange of views on the further improvement of legal and institutional mechanisms for international co-operation in this sphere.

The CIS Executive Committee is delighted to take part in such events on a regular basis. This gives us an opportunity to familiarize ourselves in detail with the practical work both of the individual members of the OSCE and of the international organizations operating in the area from Vancouver to Vladivostok. We are carefully studying cutting-edge experience, recommendations and initiatives, especially as regards the co-ordination of international co-operation, and endeavour to make use of it in our own work.

Today, in the context of the measures being taken by the CIS to counter transnational threats and challenges, I should like to go into some detail about the most important results of work in this sphere.

Joint work is carried out within the Commonwealth of Independent States in accordance with inter-State programmes approved by the CIS Heads of State. They are formed on the basis of common organizational principles and a scientific basis. The period for implementation of existing programmes to combat crime, terrorism, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and trafficking in human beings comes to an end this year. Work is continuing under the programme for co-operation among CIS member States in countering illegal migration in the period 2009 to 2011.

The CIS Executive Committee has already taken stock of the implementation of these programmes in 2008 and 2009. I should like to share these results with you.

Work was carried out systematically during that period to formalize the participation of CIS member States in the universal legal documents regulating co-operation in countering modern-day threats and challenges to security and the implementation of their provisions in national laws.

A number of basic documents have been adopted within the CIS:

- Agreement on co-operation among the CIS member States in combating the illegal manufacture of and trafficking in firearms, ammunition, explosives and explosive devices;
- Programme of co-operation among the CIS member States in countering illegal migration during the period 2009 to 2011;
- Decision on the concept for co-operation by the CIS member States to ensure information security and on the comprehensive plan of measures for the implementation of the concept for co-operation by the member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States to ensure information security during the period 2008 to 2010;
- Declaration of the CIS Heads of State on stepping up co-operation to combat illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- Convention on the legal status of migrant workers from CIS member States and their families;
- Agreement on the exchange of information in combating crime.

A substantial package of new agreements is at the agreement stage:

- Treaty of the CIS member States on inter-State searches for people;
- Agreement on co-operation among the CIS member States to counter corruption;
- Agreement on co-operation in logistical support for the competent agencies involved in combating terrorism;
- Agreement on the procedure for the creation and operation of joint investigation groups on the territory of CIS member States;
- Agreement on the protection of classified information within the framework of the CIS;
- Agreement on the creation within the CIS member States of a common system for the registration of citizens of third countries and stateless persons entering the territory of the CIS member States.

Important documents, including model laws and recommendations, were adopted by the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS member States as part of the implementation of the long-term plan for model lawmaking and harmonization of national laws in the CIS during the period 2005 to 2010.

1. Model laws:
  - On countering trafficking in human beings;
  - On assisting the victims of trafficking in human beings;
  - On countering corruption;
  - On countering extremism;
2. Amendments and additions to the model Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure of the CIS member States with respect to combating terrorism;
3. Recommendations for the unification and harmonization of the laws of the CIS member States in the area of combating illegal migration and trafficking in human beings.

A positive example of international co-operation in lawmaking is the work carried out in 2008 and 2009 by the Interim Working Group, set up under the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS member States, to improve the model CIS counter-terrorism laws. Representatives of the OSCE Secretariat, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, parliamentarians and CIS experts were involved in that work, which resulted in the adoption by the Interparliamentary Assembly in December 2009 of amendments and additions to the model Criminal Code and Code of Criminal Procedure of the CIS member States with respect to combating terrorism.

The results of the Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum entitled “The OSCE Eurasian Dimension” held in the Republic of Kazakhstan in mid-May will be of great practical significance for us. This representative meeting examined in detail such pressing current problems as increasing the role of international organizations in dealing with the threats emanating from the territory of Afghanistan and ensuring regional security in general.

These are just two examples of the list of events held at the initiative of the OSCE or with its participation. Every conference or seminar is invariably held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding and confidence, and they are notable for the highly professional manner in which the most difficult problems are considered and decisions adopted.

During the period 2008 to 2009, 26 one-off comprehensive preventive operations and four special operations were conducted on the territory of CIS member States by law enforcement authorities.

As a result of these operations, 61,300 crimes were uncovered, more than 22,000 persons under investigation were detained, the activities of 31 organized criminal communities and groups were terminated, 6,800 firearms were seized along with more than 10.9 tons of narcotic drugs, more than 16,000 persons who had violated migration laws were

identified, 72 channels for illegal migration were closed and more than 500 instances of trafficking in human beings were revealed.

The practice of conducting agreed measures in specialist areas is continuing – Canal, Illegal, Passenger, Poppy, Transit, Traffic, Supplier, Arsenal, etc. as well as specialist measures involving “controlled deliveries”.

The joint strategic command exercise Bastion-Anti-Terror 2008 was carried out from 10 to 12 September 2008 on the territory of the Republic of Belarus, with the CIS Anti-Terrorism Centre playing a co-ordinating role.

During the exercise the annual assembly of the counter-terrorism units of security and intelligence services took place.

Very close attention is being paid within the CIS to information and scientific support for joint activities in the area of security.

Work is under way to create and make effective use of modern and progressive communication and information technology systems for the exchange of information among the law enforcement authorities of the CIS member States.

The CIS Council of Internal Affairs Ministers is implementing a plan of organizational and technical measures for the creation of a single network of automated databases of fingerprints, ballistics and telecommunication systems of the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the CIS member States.

Uniform standards have been drawn up and approved for telecommunication systems, technical equipment and the protocols for the exchange of information as well as terms of reference for the development of a “specialized multi-service communications network for a uniform system for the exchange of forensic information between the Ministries of Internal Affairs of the CIS member States”.

The Council of Border Guard Commanders has approved and is implementing a concept and single form for an automated system for the timely exchange of information.

Work is continuing on a unified database of the security and intelligence services of the CIS member States and a specialized database of the CIS Anti-Terrorism Centre for the prevention, detection and suppression of unlawful acts by terrorist and extremist groups and their investigation.

Particular attention has been paid to compiling and increasing the effectiveness of a specialized database of the Office for the Co-ordination of the Fight against Organized Crime and Other Dangerous Forms of Crime on the Territory of the CIS member States, which as of 1 January 2010 contained information on more than 40,000 registered subjects, including 4,300 cases involving terrorism, 3,600 cases involving illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, 1,600 cases concerned with the economy and 785 involving illegal migration.

There is a regular exchange of experience, academic works, reference and analytical information at expert meetings.

As a result of the aforementioned measures, there has been a reduction in the total average number of the crimes registered in the CIS, including serious and very serious crimes against individuals (premeditated murders and the intention to cause serious bodily injury) and crimes against property (theft, robbery, assault with intent to rob and vandalism).

At the same time, the situation in 2009 as regards a number of dangerous manifestations of crime continued to become more difficult. International terrorists remain active. There has been an increase in the number of crimes in the information and telecommunication sphere. Corruption, illegal migration, trafficking in human beings and other transborder crimes continue to pose a real threat to security. There has been a significant increase in the risk of new threats and challenges to security associated with the possible use of nuclear, chemical, biological (bacteriological) weapons and information technologies for terrorist purposes.

Needless to say, all these concerns continue to be a focus of attention within the relevant structures of the CIS member States and CIS bodies. Specific measures are envisaged to counter each of these threats and some have already been adopted.

Distinguished Conference participants,

I should like to take this opportunity to focus your attention on the strategic importance of the initiative of the Russian Federation, which is currently chairing the CIS, as regards the drafting of a Treaty on European Security.

The purpose of the Treaty is to create a system of collective security that will ensure equal security for all States and will establish the bases for co-operation among its parties, both States and international organizations.

As you are aware, for the first time international organizations have also been invited to participate in the Treaty.

As for the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Council of CIS Foreign Ministers examined and approved this initiative on 26 March 2010.

We are hoping for a similar response by our partners.

I should like to conclude my statement by sincerely thanking the organizers of this forum for its excellent organization and conduct.

Thank you for your attention.