

PC.DEL/80/11
27 January 2011

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ANVAR AZIMOV,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

27 January 2011

Regarding the situation in Albania

Mr. Chairperson,

We should like to express our serious concern in connection with the exacerbation of the internal political situation in Albania, where on 21 January a mass demonstration organized by the opposition in Tirana degenerated into clashes with the police and resulted in the death of three persons and injuries to scores of people. We express our condolences to the families of those killed.

We call on all parties in Albania to engage in reconciliation and constructive dialogue and to seek compromises and mutually acceptable agreements within the framework of the law. We should like to stress in particular the inadmissibility of the use of force. As we all know, violence and provocative actions do not solve problems. It is important to engage in dialogue through exclusively peaceful means, making maximum effort to prevent a repetition of the events of 21 January, not to mention a further escalation of the situation, and avoiding a new wave of mass demonstrations.

Thank you for your attention.