



ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ  
ЕҚЫҰ ЖАНЫНДАҒЫ ТҰРАҚТЫ ӨКІЛДІГІ

PERMANENT MISSION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by Permanent Representative of the Republic of  
Kazakhstan to the OSCE,  
Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov  
at the 763<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council  
in response to the presentation by the Secretary General**

4 June 2009

**Madame Chair,**

We are thankful to the Secretary-General for his report and practical measures taken on behalf of our Organization.

Being a member of the Group of friends of the Alliance of Civilizations, Kazakhstan expresses its resolute support and adherence to the purposes of the initiative, which completely meets Kazakhstan's vision of problems of the modern world.

Kazakhstan firmly intends to facilitate an idea of constructive interaction between various cultures and civilizations.

It is necessary to underline an increasing role and efficiency of the Alliance of Civilizations which gets the number of supporters and becomes the real factor of the international humanitarian policy.

Forums [Fora] of the Alliance of Civilizations play an important role in uniting efforts of states, international organizations and partners to promote dialogue between cultures and religions, to strengthen tolerance and abolish all forms of discrimination.

**Madame Chair,**

Events carried out in my country with the purpose to preserve and develop tolerance atmosphere, interethnic and interreligious accord are an integral part of the international efforts aimed at achieving the Alliance of Civilizations' goals.

The world's cultural and religious diversity is a reality that one needs to understand and accept as for granted. The co-existence of different cultural and social groups in today's societies, as well as the increasingly rapid movement of people and information across cultural and civilization borders, offer a great opportunity to promote inter-civilization dialogue.

It is very important to take practical steps to strengthen cooperation among different religions, particularly in the areas of education and media, to reinforce mutual understanding and tolerance. We consider essential that lessons learned by different countries in developing inter-religious dialogue are studied, disseminated and put into practice worldwide.

That was the reason Kazakhstan initiated and convened twice in 2003 and 2006 Congresses of Leaders of World and Traditional Religions. According to the UN General Assembly resolution of November 13, 2008, Third Congress will be held in Astana on 1-2<sup>nd</sup> July in close cooperation with the UN.

Thank you.