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**PERMANENT MISSION
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE**

**OPENING STATEMENT OF THE TURKISH DELEGATION TO THE 7TH
ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

**PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE TURKISH MISSION
AMBASSADOR YUSUF BULUC**

Madame Chair, Mr. Minister and Colleagues,

My delegation is very pleased to take part in the 7th Annual Security Review Conference. Our contributions to it would be designed, as customary, to ensure that this important event serves the goals prescribed for it, which is only possible through retrospective review without losing sight of what lies ahead, being thorough and candid in our analysis to identify what needs remedy and repair.

We also offer the Chair our support through a series of constructive interventions principally driven by our desire to render this year's event measurably more productive than the preceding ones, as we witness a trend for a gradual erosion in the orientation of this gathering and a shrinkage of its substance. We hope that this year's ASRC will represent a turning point marking a deliberate reversal of this trend. More so, as we observe that the challenges arrayed against our capacity to keep European security in a good state repair have become sharper and potentially more daunting.

While our forefathers have assigned the somewhat ambitious title of "Annual Security Review" to this regular event, the record of their deliberations illustrates that they were conscious of the fact that the mandate and scope of such review would be limited to just one, albeit important, dimension of security out of a full gamut of what we call comprehensive security. With foresight they have endowed our Organization with a spectrum of processes to make sure that none of the multiple dimensions of security would be foreshadowed or receive lesser attention. Implementation of commitments in the human and economic and environmental dimensions have their own milestone events.

The acquis that the OSCE community has created over the years in this particular aspect of common security is broad and impressive. At the core of it lies the mutually supportive components of a historically important arms control treaty which is unique and irreplaceable, a compendium of measures to build confidence and a wide array of tools crucial for early warning, conflict prevention and resolution as well as crisis management. While the agenda so carefully drawn out by the Chairmanship will

provide for a detailed review later in the day, let me just say at this time that if we want these constituent parts to remain as the defining elements of the European security regime and relevant we have to do much better by rededicating ourselves to the principles of common security and to fulfilling our commitments.

The current state of the CFE Treaty, defined chiefly by the Russian Federation's so-called suspension of its obligations, leading to its progressive corrosion, the gradual diminishing of the relevance of the measures prescribed in the Vienna Document, a lessening reliance and political will to apply decisively and effectively the tools for conflict prevention, displayed so alarmingly lately in the South Caucasus across our borders, result in the state that we find ourselves in today: a severe shortage of mutual trust and confidence. I hope we shall be able frankly to take stock of where we are on these issues in order to ensure that we chart an appropriate course for the future.

That thought of looking to the future brings me to acknowledging with the greatest pleasure the illustrious presence of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation H.E Mr.Lavrov in our midst. His attendance leaves no doubt in our minds that this event is of vital importance for his Government and this key Partner's commitment to engage in the goal of improving European security is vitally important for us.

Turkey's outlook onto the European security regime has been shared with the community on a number of occasions, lately and comprehensively during the joint meeting of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Cooperation on 18th February 2009, in an intervention I had the pleasure of making. The points I have emphasized at that time remain valid. Foreign Minister Davutoğlu, his Turkish counterpart, will I am sure be happy to respond to many of the points Minister Lavrov has made today and will perhaps repeat at the forthcoming informal Ministerial Council meeting in Corfu. It would be imprudent of me to attempt to second guess what he might choose to say. But let me assure Minister Lavrov that interventions in Corfu, including that by Minister Davutoğlu, would confirm that security is not just about the politico-military dimension or hard security, but encompasses the other dimensions, the so-called softer components, and that the criticism and dissatisfaction with the current state, that is the dwindling sense of common, cooperative, indivisible and equally enjoyed security are not at the monopoly of the Russian Federation. We all look forward to a productive meeting in Corfu with optimism.

Thank you Madame Chair.