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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

1010 Vienna, Wipplinger Strasse 35, 3rd floor
e-mail: kzossce@kazakhstan.at

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**Statement by Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov,
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the
OSCE at the 777th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
22 October 2009**

*In response to H.E. Mr. Vygaudas Ušackas
Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania*

Dear Madam Chairperson,

We warmly welcome His Excellency Minister Ušackas at the Permanent Council. We thank him for his statement on the Lithuania's vision of the topical issues as well as the perspectives of co-operation in the OSCE area.

We would like to wish Lithuania success in carrying out the Presidency of the Council of the Baltic Sea States and the 2011 OSCE Chairmanship.

We are thankful to you, Mr. Minister, for your personal effective contribution and dedication to the strengthening of the Kazakh-Lithuanian ties and cooperation and strong support to the initiatives of the upcoming Kazakh Chairmanship. The Kazakh side is looking forward to active involvement of Lithuania to the OSCE Troika' activity.

Among issues of mutual interest, we believe, is the recent statement of the Presidents of Kazakhstan and France where they invited to consider the possibility to convene the OSCE Summit in 2010.

Having an intensive co-operation in economy, trade, culture and many other spheres, Kazakhstan and Lithuania have been strengthening co-operation on the OSCE related issues in preparation for upcoming OSCE Chairmanships since the well-known decision in Madrid two years ago.

In this regards I would like to refer to the Joint Statement made by the Foreign Ministers of the two countries in Astana in June this year. In particular they reaffirmed their vision of the OSCE as a unique platform for comprehensive and co-operative security dialogue uniting participating States from Transatlantic and Eurasian parts of the world with equal rights and opportunities to contribute to the international peace and security. The Ministers stressed the importance of continuity and longer-term planning of the OSCE activities noting that these goals can be achieved by ensuring closer co-operation between subsequent OSCE Chairmanships.

We cannot but agree with His Excellency Minister Ušackas, that “OSCE is a vital for fostering common understandings of threats and developing joint responses”. We thank distinguished Minister for presenting today his vision of the Corfu Process launched by the Greek Chairmanship. We share the hope that the Process will help us to restore confidence and trust, and as our Ministers stated, Kazakhstan and Lithuania are ready to further facilitate political dialogue on the European security during their OSCE Chairmanships.

As our capitals are in constant consultations, here in Vienna we are in a daily contact with Ambassador Renatas Norkus and the Lithuanian Permanent Mission to the OSCE.

In conclusion, I would like to wish His Excellency Minister Ušackas good health and success in his responsible work.

Thank you for your attention.