

ENGLISH only

Canadian Delegation to the  
Organization for Security & Cooperation  
in Europe



Délégation du Canada auprès de  
l'Organisation pour la sécurité et la coopération  
en Europe

**DELEGATION OF CANADA TO THE OSCE  
STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE ADDRESS BY THE SPECIAL  
ENVOY OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
FOR THE FUTURE STATUS PROCESS FOR KOSOVO,  
H.E. PRESIDENT MARTTI AHTISAARI  
653rd (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
20 FEBRUARY 2007**

Canada welcomes the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, President Ahtisaari, back to the Permanent Council. We thank him for his address on his Draft Comprehensive Proposal for the Kosovo Status Settlement.

Canada is fully supportive of the process President Ahtisaari has undertaken in close collaboration with the Contact Group on Kosovo.

We follow developments in Kosovo with interest. Our wish is to see a tolerant, democratic and multi-ethnic society established in Kosovo, of which a democratic and professional security sector is an integral part. This should contribute to promote political stability in Kosovo and in the wider Balkan region.

We believe President Ahtisaari's Draft Comprehensive Proposal provides a basis for further intensive discussions, beginning tomorrow. We urge both parties to adopt a flexible and constructive approach. We look forward to an outcome endorsed by the United Nations Security Council, which would provide, inter alia, for strong guarantees for minority rights and protection.

A strong international engagement in Kosovo will be needed for a significant period of time to supervise the full implementation of any settlement. Involvement of the OSCE, the United Nations, NATO and the European Union will be crucial. As we have stated before, we will be prepared to look at a continuing further OSCE role based on the content of an eventual settlement.

We wish President Ahtisaari and his team every success in bringing their challenging work to a successful conclusion.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.