



ASRC - Session 1

Statement made by Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Tomislav VIDOSEVIC

- Croatia is committed to contributing to the anti-terrorist activities of the international community. We call for the increased efforts to implement the adopted OSCE documents, such as The OSCE Strategy to Address Threats in the 21st Century. As a new candidate country, Croatia associates itself to the EU statement. However, we would like to add few words in our national capacity.
- To further inhibit any illegal flow of arms, the Croatian Government has accepted and is implementing the criteria contained in the EU Code of Conduct for Arms Exports, as well as the SALW obligations. Also, we are making efforts to implement the MANPADS decisions and preparing legal basis as well practical measures in order to fulfil the necessary preconditions for the adhesion to the Wassenaar Arrangement..
- The Republic of Croatia is deeply interested in the activities carried out by the OSCE in co-operation with other organizations in the field of combating terrorism. It has adopted a series of legislative and other measures aimed to strengthen our activities, i.a. the legislation to implement the UN Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, the Foreign Exchange Act accompanied by numerous decisions, the changes of the Criminal Act and the Asylum Act (to enter into force on 1 July 2004). At the beginning of this year, Croatia has informed for the fourth time the Counter Terrorism Committee of the Security Council of the United Nations on specific measures and activities undertaken following the UN Resolution 1373/2001. Let me mention in this context that the Republic of Croatia is a party of eight out of twelve Conventions against terrorism and that the ninth one is in the parliamentary procedure
- Croatia specifically supports the activities concerning the suppression for the financing of terrorism, being aware that this is one of the best ways to fight it. The cooperation within the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has proved its utility and we are very supportive to the appeals addressed to the countries still not applying its rules and recommendations to help the international action in this field by joining the FATF...
- Finally, let me to react to the US Delegation's initiative concerning the container shipping security: we support the idea that OSCE starts to study this proposal in order to make a political commitment on the need of building up some common standards, like we have done in some other fields.