

Delegation of Switzerland

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND  
AT THE 2013 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 19 and 20 June 2013

**Working session II:**

**Early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management, conflict resolution  
and post-conflict rehabilitation: lessons learned and the way ahead**

Mr./Madam Chairperson,

One of the OSCE's core tasks is to predict, prevent, overcome and settle conflicts and crises and to normalize the post-crisis and -conflict situation using suitable means.

We should like to make the following points.

1. On the work of the Ukrainian Chairmanship/Conflict Prevention Centre: The Swiss delegation welcomes the efforts of the Ukrainian OSCE Chairmanship and the Conflict Prevention Centre to implement Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/11 to empower the OSCE in the various phases of the conflict cycle. We can continue working on the solid basis of the progress report on implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/11 of 24 May 2013 and the food-for-thought paper of 27 May 2013.
2. On the conflict cycle working group: The next informal working group on the conflict cycle does not meet again until October 2013. The conflict cycle issue should nevertheless remain until then on the OSCE agenda and be discussed. However we believe that the discussions in the informal Helsinki+40 working group should complement rather than replace the discussion by the conflict cycle working group at the strategic level.
3. On reconciliation: We have seen that participating States have differing opinions on the question of reconciliation. There is therefore a need for further precision – for example by way of a food-for-thought paper – so as to develop a common understanding and to clarify the OSCE's role in this connection. We would welcome a prompt reaction.
4. On the forthcoming budget negotiations: As future chair of the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance and with a view to the adoption of the 2014 OSCE budget, the pressure on saving gives us cause for concern. This can also be felt in the conflict prevention and crisis management facilities. Although their sense and purpose has long been recognized by most States, their financing remains unclear. If we wish to carry out the OSCE's core

mandate, the necessary resources must be earmarked. We therefore ask the participants in the Annual Security Review Conference to lobby in their capitals for support for this idea.

5. This statement would not be complete without mention of the establishment of the Mediation Unit in the Secretariat. The opinion of the Swiss delegation in this regard is well known: a broader commitment by the OSCE community of States is needed to provide the future unit with a solid foundation.

Mr./Madam Chairperson, thank you for your attention.