

Delegation of Switzerland

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND AT THE
2011 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 1 July 2011

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

Mr. Chairperson,

The conflict cycle is not only the focus of the current V to V Dialogue launched following the Astana Summit as a continuation of the Corfu Process but also to a certain extent influences the work of the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) in the OSCE Secretariat.

Switzerland would therefore like to take this opportunity to welcome the new CPC director, Ambassador Adam Kobieracki, to the OSCE.

The promotion of peace and the prevention of conflicts are central tasks of the OSCE. Switzerland believes that these core areas of the OSCE's activities should be strengthened. After all the discussion within the Corfu Process the time has come to make and implement specific decisions on the conflict cycle.

Mediation and the promotion of dialogue are effective and cost-effective instruments for supporting the conflicting parties in a peace process. They are also useful as tools for preventing violent conflicts or the eruption of new conflicts after a peace treaty has been concluded.

The OSCE already has various dialogue and mediation mechanisms. These need to be strengthened. Ways of doing this will be discussed at a meeting of experts on 12 July 2011. Apart from process design and training expertise, there is also a need for experts on other topics such as State building, constitution and the rule of law, reform of the security sector, DDR (disarmament, demobilization and reintegration), reconciliation with the past or transitional justice, who could be consulted on an ad hoc basis.

These mediation support capacities should be developed gradually and on demand with the avoidance, however, of duplication.

Switzerland has invested in mediation in the last few years. It is involved in mediation processes and has made a strong commitment to mediation training and knowledge

management. We are willing to make this expertise available and to offer training courses for future OSCE mediation specialists.

The main condition for successful mediation is the willingness of an organization and its participating States to use it as an instrument to promote peace. Switzerland would therefore very much welcome it if the delegations were to include this topic in their discussion on decisions on the conflict cycle.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.