

STATEMENT
of the Special Representative of the President
of the Republic of Tajikistan
Talbak Nazarov
at the 14th OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting
Brussels, 4-5 December 2006

Mr. Chairman,
Distinguished colleagues,
Ladies and gentlemen

Let me join the words of gratitude of those expressed here in respect of the Belgian Government and you personally, Minister, for hospitality and excellent arrangement of today's Meeting. We highly appreciate the activities of the Belgian Chairmanship on the complex OSCE Agenda.

Mr. Chairman,

OSCE role in ensuring universal security and stability is extremely important. The reforms outlined in Ljubljana in case of their realization would strengthen the Organization and its key principles and structures and increase its international reputation. Implementation of the "road map" adopted at the 13th OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting on reforms can have a positive impact on the process of further improving the Organization.

We are deeply convinced that the need of OSCE reforming is timely, taking into account geopolitical changes in the region and the world as a whole. The recent events and the active OSCE involvement in the processes confirm the necessity of its transformation towards the positive solution of the functional objectives in the politico-military, economic and human dimensions. We believe that OSCE reforms should be undertaken in all directions of the Organization's activities ensuring the geographical and thematic balance.

In the light of the above said we hope that the proposals stated in the Appeal of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan will be supported by OSCE community, namely, in its part relating to the process of OSCE transformation into full international organization with its Charter and Convention which will give it legal status.

Supporting the proposal for OSCE chairmanship of Kazakhstan in 2009 we consider it as observance of geographical balance and implementation of the equality principle in the Organization's activities.

Dear colleagues,

In the modern world it is impossible to ensure socio-economic and political development of a country separately from the world community. More frequently the mankind faces global problems and challenges that can be solved using collective measures only. Combating terrorism and extremism and their consequences, in particular, threats of drug trafficking and their global feature stand separately in this area and addressing them requires joint efforts. A new geopolitical paradigm formed at the beginning of XXI century has clearly defined the role and place of each state in the system of international relations. The constant of the foreign policy of the Republic of Tajikistan is establishment of friendly and mutually beneficial relations with every country, further development of the regional cooperation in its large scope and opposition to security threats and risks. Such foreign policy framework ensures deepening of democratic process inside the society and achievement of stable social and economic development of the country. Today Tajikistan plays an important role in ensuring international and regional security while being an active participant of the joint fight against the international terrorism.

Not long ago in Tajikistan presidential elections were conducted and Emomali Rakhmonov was again elected as a Head of the State. The elections have become a new phase for further development of Tajikistan. Immediately after his election, the Head of the State announced a program of further development of the country. In the forthcoming years priorities will be given to further social and economic development of the country and increase of the quality of life. Further development and deepening of the democratic processes in the society and, first of all, observance of basic human rights are given a special place in the program.

Dear colleagues,

Combating the incessant and growing threat of drug trafficking from the southern borders, as well as international and regional cooperation in opposing this evil will henceforth remain as a principle objective of the Government of Tajikistan. Taking this opportunity, I would like to draw your attention at the urgency of my Government's initiative on establishing a common Anti-drug Coalition introduced already to a number of international organizations, including OSCE.

Today Tajikistan is a main barrier on the way of the so-called «northern route» of drug smuggles and transit. We are convinced that a serious strike on drug traffic threatening the security in Central Asia and outside the region can be dealt only with joint efforts of the international community.

Speaking about the cooperation of the Tajik Government with OSCE in general, we positively assess its activities. Together with other aspects of cooperation, I would like mainly to point out politico-military dimension where Tajikistan experiences particular needs. We specially underline the urgency of

the de-mining project in Tajikistan and the program of destruction and stockpile of small arms and ammunition, which are successfully implemented in the country. Taking the opportunity, I would like to express the gratitude of the Tajik Government to partner-states for their contribution into the realization of the projects. We expect that OSCE and partner-states' assistance in strengthening state border security will be significant and practical as well.

Giving a special and major importance to the need of growing regional cooperation in Central Asia, Tajikistan consider transport and communication infrastructure development to be a strategic objective requiring its solution. Proceeding from this, the Government of Tajikistan is ready to host in 2007 the Conference on trans-Asian and Eurasian transit transportation – 2015.

Dear Chairman,

I am convinced that the participating States of the Organization will demonstrate responsibility and sequence in implementation of the decisions that will be undertaken at our Meeting in the name of safety and prosperity of OSCE region.

Republic of Tajikistan in cooperation with the partner-states is ready to make its contribution in this significant work.

Thank you for your attention.