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Remarks by Slovenian Delegation, 2010 Annual Security Review Conference, Working session III: The role and perspectives of arms control and confidence and security-building regimes in building trust in the evolving security environment, 14-16 June 2010, Vienna

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Mr. Chairman, having aligned to the EU general statement allow me to make a couple of points from national perspective. I will structure my brief intervention into two parts relevant to the topic of the working session: (1) the review of the strategic documents in Slovenia and (2) the continued importance of conventional arms control, CSBMs and non-proliferation.

The ongoing review of the strategic documents in Slovenia: The Slovenian Parliament has in spring approved new National Security Strategy. The revision was needed due to the changes in international security environment since 2001 when the last strategy was adopted and the membership in NATO and EU in 2004. The revision of the Strategy is part of the ongoing general overhaul of the strategic documents. Similarly the Strategy on Slovenia's Participation in International Operations and Missions has entered in force. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is in the final stage of drafting new Foreign Policy Strategy.

The overall strategic framework identifies threats and challenges to national security at global, supranational and national levels and defines policies and instruments to address them. In implementing them the guiding principles are comprehensiveness, coherence and coordination both on national and international level. It is also designed in a way to enable the fine tuning and adapting the policies due to the evolving security environment, including the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the ongoing revision of NATO's Strategic Concept and the ongoing European Security Dialogue.

The strategies specifically address challenges and define also policies and activities related to conventional arms control CSBMs and non-proliferation. They also call for working with partners, be it bilateral or through regional or multilateral arena to that end.

2) The importance of conventional arms control, CSBMs and non-proliferation:

Conventional arms control, disarmament, CSBMS and non-proliferation remain indispensable elements of cooperative security, stability, transparency and predictability in the entire Euro-Atlantic area. They are fundamental building blocks of our comprehensive, cooperative and indivisible security. It is clear, that we face certain impasse in this segment. It is also clear that certain differences regarding the concept or the meaning of the comprehensive peace and security still persist. The Corfu Process might both reaffirm the concept of comprehensive peace and security and bridge the differences.

Slovenia remains committed to these mechanisms and attaches great importance to their continued, full and unconditional implementation. Among them, the Treaty on Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) represents the cornerstone of European security. Although Slovenia is not a State Party to the Treaty, it attaches great importance to its continued implementation and preservation.

In our view the implementation of the existing commitments in the OSCE should continue to be full and unconditional. It is worth revisiting them through their reinvigoration, using their full potential and both - recommit to them and update them to meet the challenges of the changed security landscape.

We are pleased to work together to that end with participating States cosponsoring different non papers and food for thoughts across all three OSCE dimensions through the European Security Dialogue. Specifically we are working in the political-military area on updating the Vienna Document 99 and on seminar on military doctrines to contribute to more transparency and predictability. We hope that these areas will be appropriately reflected in draft interim report to be discussed by our ministers in July in Astana and later at the possible Summit.

One specific issue is also the prevention of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction following the successful conclusion of the Non-proliferation Treaty Review conference. It is very important that all states continue to build their national capacity in the areas of normative framework, prevention of illicit trafficking, physical protection and control of nuclear and radioactive materials and substances on the basis of the relevant UN legislative framework. The OSCE is well placed to contribute to this process through raising awareness, contribute to the implementation of the commitments and facilitate technical assistance.

Thank you Mr Chairman.