

STATEMENT BY THE PORTUGUESE MINISTER OF STATE AND FOR FOREIGN  
AFFAIRS, H.E. MR. LUIS AMADO

VII OSCE SUMMIT

Astana, 2 December 2010

Thank you Madam Chairperson

First of all I would like to convey to our Chairman-in-Office our gratitude for the relentless efforts in making this Summit a reality. Astana will hopefully be remembered as the moment when we were again able to move forward together, based on a common vision of inclusive security; and set ourselves the strategic objective of building a Security Community to face the challenges of this century. The clear reconfirmation of all our principles and commitments sends a strong political message, demonstrating once more that we share the same aspiration: comprehensive peace and security in our vast area.

We expect the OSCE's concept of a Security Community to shape the security architecture of the next few decades, taking into account the deep structural transformations of international relations since the end of the Cold War as well as the new social, political and economic realities of today's global environment.

We want the OSCE to contribute more effectively to address crisis situations as a regional arrangement under Chapter VIII of the UN Charter; provide an inclusive and comprehensive framework to face the new threats; and interact further with other organizations on the basis of the Platform for Cooperative Security.

We were proud to host an historic NATO Summit and the NATO-Russia Council meeting in Lisbon. Both the atmosphere and the outcome of those meetings are a clear demonstration of our common will to cooperate in the face of common threats and to move beyond old-fashioned worldviews.

Engaged multilateral cooperation – of which the OSCE will continue to be a leading example – is the only effective way to address the vital challenges confronting us in an increasingly interdependent World.

Madam Chairperson,

It is encouraging to witness progress being made in the informal consultations on a framework agreement for future negotiations on conventional arms control in Europe. We hope that the framework will be agreed shortly. We need a modernized, effective and verifiable limitation regime that will be, once again, the cornerstone of

European security. It should reflect the reality of post-block Europe and enhance inclusive security by allowing the participation of all interested.

It is equally encouraging to see concrete action taking shape in the field of confidence and security building measures. We wish to see progress already achieved in updating the Vienna Document followed by increasingly more substantial steps.

Progress in the settlement of the protracted conflicts within our area is indispensable if we are to build a real security community. Concrete, incremental steps can be taken, within existing negotiation formats. Measurable progress in conflicts should be another positive outcome of the cooperative spirit that has permeated this Summit: the OSCE's credibility also depends on its ability to help preventing and solving conflicts within its area. Preserving that credibility is in the interest of all its participating States.

Building on the OSCE's already impressive *acquis*, we should be able to increase our capabilities to address the entire conflict cycle, emphasizing early warning and early response.

The OSCE's concept of inclusive and comprehensive security is a major asset in facing the new threats to our security, given their transnational, asymmetric and evolving nature. We need to update the OSCE's strategic approach to transnational threats, develop our capabilities, increase coordination, internally as well as with other international actors. We must focus our attention in key areas where we are most able to add value.

The OSCE's Mediterranean and Asian Partnerships are key in addressing transnational threats as well as is in many other areas of our work. We need to take into account the security interdependence and the commonality of challenges faced by participating States and Partners for Cooperation. Ties will need to be reinforced and we must stay open to the possibility of continuing to enlarge the Partnerships in order to ensure a more inclusive cooperation.

We believe in the inseparable connection between ensuring respect for human rights and maintaining peace, justice and stability, as enshrined in the OSCE's concept of comprehensive security. The development of human rights depends on a peaceful environment, in the same way that human rights are needed to attain peace.

The renewal of our commitment to human rights and democracy will allow us to remain a community of values and live up to the commitments we have set for ourselves 35 years ago. These shared values are essential to face the opportunities and challenges of today's growing diversity. Only through the promotion of mutual understanding and the appreciation of diversity we will be able to counter polarized misperceptions and prejudice.

Madam Chairperson,

The political will we display here in Astana to converge around a project of security dialogue and cooperation for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century must be followed by an equal amount of political will to implement. The follow-up to the Summit will be the true test of Astana's significance. Building a Security Community will take time, sustained resolve and an incremental approach, but we believe in the crucial importance of firm initial steps here.

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to convey our best wishes to the incoming Lithuanian Chairmanship, confident that under its able leadership we will continue to advance in turning our shared vision into practical reality. I would also like to extend a word of confidence and support for the subsequent Chairs, Ireland and Ukraine.

Finally, please allow me, through you, to convey to our Chairman in Office our appreciation for the warm welcome we received in Astana and for the efficient organization of the Summit.

Thank you.