



**DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE**

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**Statement by
H.E. Mr. Adilbek Zhaksybekov, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Kazakhstan
on the occasion of the inauguration of Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of
the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation**

Vienna, 7 September 2011

Mr. Chairperson,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Thank you for the invitation to inaugurate Kazakhstan's Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), which serves as a unique platform within our Organization for the discussion of politico-military aspects of security and consensus decisions.

In the Astana Declaration adopted at the OSCE Summit, the Heads of State or Government commended the Forum on its work and made reference to the need to update and modernize arms control regimes, which remain major instruments for ensuring military stability, predictability and transparency.

Before I share with you our plans for the period ahead, I should like to congratulate our colleagues from Iceland and Italy on the successful completion of their work as the other countries chairing the Forum this year.

During the first and second trimester our colleagues have done a considerable amount of work and set a good pace. We shall continue their successful endeavours so as to maximize our positive results.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Pressing security issues within the OSCE area have always been at the centre of the attention of all the participating States of our Organization without exception.

We have a great responsibility to achieve the goals set at the Astana Summit, considerable part of which are to be realized within the Forum for Security Co-operation.

We are very much counting on the support of the distinguished heads of delegations and experts because one of the main conditions for the successful work of the Forum is the mobilization of joint efforts in overcoming possible disagreements and difficulties.

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As we begin our work now, we shall do all we can to further update and modernize the politico-military tools of the OSCE.

An important element of this work in our view is the continuation of the practice of inviting high-level guests to FSC meetings under the Security Dialogue agenda item.

As early as today, during the joint meeting of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation, we shall have an opportunity to meet with my former government colleague and good friend, Kassym-Jomart Tokayev, who is currently serving as Director-General of the United Nations Office at Geneva.

This will be followed by a number of other meetings within the framework of the Security Dialogue, at which we shall examine a wide range of topics, including peacekeeping activities and other issues.

It is essential that we organize the Forum's work in such a way that we can achieve as full package as possible of decisions ready for adoption at the annual OSCE Ministerial Council meeting to be held in Vilnius.

I should like to single out the work on the draft decisions regarding the Vienna Document Plus. A positive outcome of the painstaking work already performed by delegations and their efforts at compromise during 2010 and 2011 was the adoption of agreed decisions on updating Chapter I "Annual Exchange of Military Information", Chapter IV "Contacts", Chapter IX "Compliance and Verification" and Chapter XII "Final Provisions", which will provide a basis for the work ahead of us in updating the Vienna Document 1999.

The Kazakh delegation has played an active part in the discussion of proposals to modernize the Vienna Document and has co-authored a number of decisions in this regard. Respect for the views of all the participants in this process and a desire to seek solutions that are mutually acceptable and based on consensus are the basic principles that Kazakhstan will adhere to in this work.

We wish to assure everyone that other questions falling within the remit of our Forum shall also receive the attention they deserve.

The problems involved in implementing the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition will remain an important item on the FSC's agenda.

We note the importance of carrying out OSCE projects dealing with these subjects in the Organization's participating States. Our knowledge of the danger posed by the huge stockpiles of weapons and ammunition inherited from the Cold War is based not on what we have heard from others.

Issues having to do with the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction have traditionally been priority concerns for Kazakhstan.

Work will continue on giving more concrete expression to the results of the workshop to discuss the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 that was successfully organized by the Icelandic FSC Chairmanship.

One such step during our Chairmanship will be the holding of regional seminar in Kazakhstan on the implementation of resolution 1540.

Work will continue on the Code of Conduct so as to organize a review conference next year on one of the most important politico-military instruments. The necessary basis for further work in the form of a draft decision is already in place.

I have no doubt whatsoever that the preparation of all the relevant reports for the Ministerial Council meeting will be done in good time and to a high quality. I can be confident of this because I know that this work will be carried out by the specialized professionals present in this room today and their colleagues in the capital cities.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In inaugurating the FSC Chairmanship we shall continue the work of the OSCE Troika.

It is a pleasure for us that the OSCE Chairmanship baton has been handed to our Lithuanian colleagues and friends this year. We are ready to continue to offer them every possible support. For our part, we gratefully recall the support the Kazakhstan Chairmanship received last year and we see what results it has been possible to achieve with that support.

I should like to express the conviction that together we shall be all to solve all the tasks facing the Forum in 2011 and continue our joint work next year under the chairmanship of our colleagues from Kyrgyzstan.

We intend to draw on the experience that has been acquired by our predecessors and also the traditional comprehensive support of the OSCE Secretariat in the form of the Conflict Prevention Centre and Conference Services.

We are very much counting on the assistance and invaluable experience of our distinguished co-ordinators for the Vienna Document, the Code of Conduct and the projects involving small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition.

Mr. Chairperson,

Here in this room you can really feel the atmosphere in which it is a honour for us all to work for the good of our countries and our common Organization. This atmosphere reminds me of the friendly environment in which we worked during the OSCE Summit in Astana.

In concluding my statement, I should like to wish all those present that this mood be ever present within the walls of the Neuer Saal and that the results of our work help us all to move a step closer to Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.