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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALYKSANDR SYCHOV,
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TO THE OSCE, AT THE 2010 ANNUAL SECURITY
REVIEW CONFERENCE**

14 June 2010

Opening Session

Mr. Chairperson,

First of all, allow me to thank Mr. Konstantin Zhigalov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan, for his interesting and informative statement, which sets the tone for our three-day round of discussions.

During the last year since the previous Annual Security Review Conference, we have seen important and positive advances in the development of security dialogue within the OSCE.

The Russian initiative for the drafting of a Treaty on European Security, which Mr. Sergey Lavrov, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, spoke about in this room a year ago, deserves particular praise in this regard. The idea for this treaty has clearly provided an important impetus to our work and remains relevant as a realistic way of overcoming the fragmentation of security in the OSCE region and of safeguarding genuinely indivisible security.

The Corfu Process launched last year by the Greek OSCE Chairmanship has stimulated dialogue on the really topical questions of Euro-Atlantic security that have long been demanding our close attention. In this regard, we also greatly appreciate the efforts of the Kazakh OSCE Chairmanship in 2010, under whose guidance the discussion on the Corfu Process has kept up its forward momentum and moved to the level of specific proposals. We trust that the interim report on Corfu, which this Conference will also contribute to, will form a reliable basis for our future joint efforts in this regard.

In spite of the abiding differences of opinion, there is a willingness by the participating States to seek compromises and to work constructively together.

A clear example of this is the decision adopted in May this year by the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) to establish a procedure for incorporating FSC decisions in the Vienna Document. This sets up a basis for further improving one of the fundamental OSCE

documents in the area of confidence- and security-building measures. We trust that the FSC will continue to work in the same constructive spirit to improve the Vienna Document and all of the OSCE's politico-military instruments.

In this context, it is impossible to ignore the problems with the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty). It is not an OSCE treaty, but the circumstances surrounding it have a negative impact on politico-military security in the OSCE region. We trust that attention to the CFE Treaty within the Corfu Process will serve as an effective signal to the States Parties to that Treaty and will bring about a resumption of substantive dialogue within the Joint Consultative Group.

The unity of the participating States in countering together the new transborder threats and challenges to security in the OSCE region should be mentioned as a positive note in our work to strengthen security and stability. We are looking forward in this regard to all-round discussion of the recommendations in the recent report by the OSCE Secretary General.

The problem of early warning and conflict resolution should remain as one of the key issues demanding priority attention within the OSCE. Unfortunately, our Organization's potential in this regard is still in need of improvement. At the same time, the complex, contradictory and inter-dimensional nature of conflicts calls for a cautious and measured approach with strict observance of the consensus rule.

It is important for international organizations operating in the field of security in the Euro-Atlantic region to step up their co-operation. In this regard the initiative for a meeting of the heads of five international organizations (European Union, OSCE, Collective Security Treaty Organization, NATO and Commonwealth of Independent States) remains valid. Belarus also suggests that the parliamentary dimension be involved more actively in the European security dialogue.

We are convinced that an OSCE summit is in the interests of strengthening security in the Euro-Atlantic region and in our Organization as a whole. The Republic of Belarus fully endorses the initiative in this regard by Kazakhstan. We believe that the necessary technical decisions for holding a high-level meeting need to be taken in the very near future. We trust that the informal ministerial meeting in Almaty in July this year will produce agreement on a rich agenda for the summit in line with the approaches and priorities of all participating States.

In conclusion, allow us to wish all participants a successful and productive Conference.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.