**ENGLISH** only

## 12th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum "New Challenges for Building up Institutional and Human Capacity for Economic Development and Co-operation" June $1^{\rm st}$ , Prague

Statement by the Czech Republic in reply to the Principality of Liechtenstein under Agenda item: Review of the Implementation of OSCE Commitments in the Economic and Environmental Dimension

- The Czech Republic is convinced of the importance of the EU enlargement for the OSCE and believes that this view is shared by the Principality of Liechtenstein (who, as it itself recalled earlier, has become a closer partner of the Czech Republic due to the membership of EU member states in the EEA);
- While recognising the importance of the OSCE Bonn Document of 1990, the Czech Republic has to reject the accusation by the Principality of Liechtenstein of the Czech non-compliance with the Document's provisions. Besides, we cannot agree with attempts at retroactively applying OSCE commitments of the 1990 Bonn Document to deeds, events and phenomena of a distant past;
- It is our long-standing and well known position that the Economic and Environmental Dimension of the OSCE, including the Economic Forum as its principal event, should not be burdened with bilateral issues (let alone property claims);
- We reiterate on this occasion that we remain interested in rectifying the anomaly in bilateral relations with the Principality of Liechtenstein which is the only OSCE participating State that has failed to recognise the Czech Republic and to establish diplomatic relations with it. The Czech Republic has always been ready to take the two steps, which, however, must be unconditional. We also believe that the Government of the Czech Republic has demonstrated enough good will to develop friendly relations between this two countries;