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**PERMANENT MISSION
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR YUSUF BULUÇ
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY
IN RESPONSE TO PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVES OF THE CIO ON
COMBATION INTOLERANCE**

(1 November 2007, Permanent Council)

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome Ambassador Orhun and Prof. Weisskirchen to the Permanent Council. We thank them for their very informative presentations. We regret the absence of Mrs. Crickley and deeply sympathize with reasons which barred her from being with us.

The reports presented by the three Personal Representatives, as common threads of findings and conclusions, reflect the following:

- Wide spectrum of activities has been carried out by three Personal Representatives.
- There is a rising demand for their involvement on issues within their mandate.
- Their ties are being strengthened with the civil society
- Their input becomes sharper, more succinct through providing in-depth analysis and recommendations to address challenges that participating States have to tackle in combating various forms of intolerance

All this is a testimony to not just continuing but augmented relevance of the three Personal Representatives. No other international organization has a similar structure to address the specific forms of intolerance for which our three Personal Representatives are mandated to tackle. Their efforts individually and collectively represent an indisputable added value. That said, we look forward to report by the Chairmanship on the remit by Ministers to review their contribution. For us the results of the review are obvious. The preparation of the report, as in the Ministerial remit, is the sole purview of the Spanish Chairmanship. We shall address ourselves to the report as and when it is issued.

Incidents of intolerance have serious implications for security both at the national and international levels. Therefore, the continued contribution of three Personal Representatives should be considered as a consequence of and a robust complement to OSCE's core early warning and conflict prevention mandate. With strengthened human resources, we are confident that this structure will also enhance its effectiveness and contribution. For this, we must pay heed to their appeal and recommendations.

Thank you.