Statement by the Delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the OSCE at the 738th Permanent Council meeting in response to the Address by the EU Special Representative for Central Asia and Georgia, Ambassador Pierre Morel

6 November 2008

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to warmly welcome Ambassador Morel, the EU Special Representative for Central Asia and for Crisis in Georgia at today’s meeting of the Permanent Council, and express our delegation’s appreciation for delivering his address that covered a big area of his responsibilities.

We would like to commend Ambassador Morel and his dedicated team for their efforts to launch a peaceful process to reduce tension in South Caucasus. We call upon all parties involved to demonstrate their good will and to try to find a way out of situation in question.

We are confident that only through our joint efforts the crisis could be overcome and people would live in peaceful and safe environment.

We would like to express our expectations of successful talks in Geneva on November 18. We believe that huge experience and inspiration of Ambassador Morel help us to find a mutually accepted ways to settle the conflict.

Mr. Chairman,

We attach a great importance to developing cooperation between the Central Asia and the European Union on the basis of common goals and commitments on security issues. Combating terrorism and extremism, trafficking in human beings, in small arms and in drugs as well as cooperation on border security and management, energy and environment are the areas where our countries and the European Union should work closely to maintain peace and security in the region. We also continue to believe that the “EU and Central Asia: Strategy for a New Partnership” should remain to be fundamental for further developing cooperation between two regions.

In this regard we commend Ambassador Morel’s efforts on strengthening partnership between EU and Central Asia to address those issues and expresses its full support for his activities as the EU Special Representative for our region.
We welcome the results of the Second EU-Central Asia Forum on Security Issues that have been held last September in Paris and believe that such an open dialogue proved to be very effective in terms of synchronizing positions and reaffirming commitments, and should be continued on a regular basis.

Mr. Chairman,

Recently, the Government for Kazakhstan has adopted a special programme called “Path to Europe”. The document reflects our interest to a wider interaction with European countries in energy, transport transit, technology transfer, education and humanitarian areas of cooperation. One of the main goals of the Programme is to develop Kazakhstan’s priorities for its upcoming OSCE chairmanship to be in line with the goals and principles of the Organization. We believe that a successful implementation of this programme could benefit all sides concerned and invite our partners to play a noticeable role in this process.

We wish Ambassador Morel and his team every success in their endeavours.