

STATEMENT
of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic E. Karabaev
at the 16th OSCE Ministerial Council Meeting
Helsinki, 4 December 2008

Esteemed Mr. Chairman-in-Office,

Esteemed colleagues,

Let me express our gratitude to the Finnish Chairmanship, headed by the Minister Mr. Stubb, for an excellently performed work during this year and for organization of today's meeting.

The previous year turned out to be anything but simple. We may say that the year 2008 has become the year of global crises and the year of challenges and threats to global security, either in energy, food or financial spheres. We encountered our own unreadiness not only to prevent similar situations but react to them with collective responsibility, what assumes the availability of reasonable balance between national sovereignty and the world order.

This shows the necessity for modernization of available collective security institutes, including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. The post-war Europe has received a unique mechanism for maintenance of a European security in the name of the OSCE. The principles of the Helsinki Final Act have provided the foundation to the beginning of the new era of international relations when the sacred principle of sovereignty was not associated with the violence of fighting selfishness.

Today the OSCE is the unity of the European Atlantic and Eurasian communities. Not only intergovernmental relations but also global network partnership of various civil, financial and other institutes form the basis for this unity. This partnership is aimed at preventing new challenges and threats including terrorism, separatism, extremism, drug and human trafficking and international crime.

This network partnership should have a new qualitative management within the OSCE, based on creation of conditions for realization of the interests and preserving the values not only of the states and intergovernmental organizations but of the most diverse social communities as well. In order to design a model for interaction between the state and society the Kyrgyz Republic and the OSCE conducted a Sub-regional Central Asian Conference on public and private partnership in combating terrorism in November this year.

Kyrgyzstan had declared our President's proposal on the formation of "OSCE - Central Asia" Parliamentary working Group with a task of elaborating model international acts for counteracting terrorism.

Kyrgyzstan considers necessary to pay rapt attention to the legal constituent of world security as the year 2008 has challenged a priori of international law. We all understand how the uncontrollability of such situation can develop into the crisis of democracy, loss of human and even more – civilization dimension in the democratic reforms which are being carried out by us. Therefore Kyrgyzstan gives great attention to a new Treaty on European Security initiated by the Russian Federation.

At the same time we think that this document can be extended to a Eurasian level as Central Asia in the framework of CIS, CSTO and SCO is a significant component of continental integration process which affects the sphere of security.

We suggest to enhance cooperation of the OSCE with the abovementioned organizations on issues of illegal migration, terrorism, border management, arms-, drug- and human-trafficking, etc.

It is necessary to come out on a level of continuous consultations including inter-Parliamentary ones. Having completed the national democratization dialogue by formation of a qualitatively new Parliament, the Kyrgyz Republic advocates the strengthening of the parliamentary constituent of the OSCE.

At the same time security should not be considered in the humanitarian dimension only. The role of the OSCE's economic dimension has to be increased. While successfully implementing the economic reforms in the country, the Kyrgyz Republic emphasizes the importance of the realization of the OSCE's Economic Strategy and strengthening of a practical output of the Economic Forum, especially with regard to creation of equal conditions in the field of trade and economic cooperation within the OSCE space while considering the interests of all participants.

Reinforcement of economic dimension in the activities of the OSCE will provide a significant impulse to the development of the Organization. At one time this impulse will allow to focus our joint efforts on formation of an economic system which will be considering the principles of social justice. Starting from the next year the World Day of Social Justice will be celebrated on the initiative of the President of the Kyrgyz Republic which gained your support during the 62nd session of the General Meeting. Thereupon our Republic invites the OSCE member-states to address projects of social significance.

This seems to be particularly important in the context of the global financial crisis which affected socially unprotected groups in the first place. In the activities of the OSCE we consider important to modernize the global system of financial security and elaborate a Strategy of financial security which will provide the mechanisms for prevention and elimination of the consequences in such situations.

The environmental dimension also needs an increase of collective responsibility. The Kyrgyz Republic has been repeatedly drawing attention of the world community to the situation with uranium tailings in our country, the country which supplies drinking water. Support of our partners in the OSCE is required for solution of the problem with the tailings which may have negative consequences for the whole region.

Under the conditions of new global risks and challenges the concept of “security” not merely changes but also gains new contents and functional constituents. Accordingly, the instruments for prevention and management of conflicts and crises, such as the OSCE, require perfection. The significance of new common approaches in economic, energy, environmental and other dimensions is growing.

Most importantly is that the OSCE has potential for perfection and maintenance of global security. Our country is prepared for full proactive participation in the work of the Organization in all dimensions, as the course of development, which is being realized by the President of the Kyrgyz Republic, is based on democratic values and the principles of partnership with the OSCE.

Thank you for attention.