

**2008 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**  
**VIENNA, 1-2 JULY 2008**  
**SPEAKING NOTES**

**Session I: Transnational challenges to security in the OSCE area:**

-The OSCE addresses issues in the common interest and of concern to all participating States, such as countering terrorism, police matters, fight against illicit drugs and organized crime, and border security and management. My country actively participates in the works of the different bodies of the OSCE, particularly in these areas, and contributes to them.

- Happily, there is a strong political support within the OSCE to enhance the contribution of our Organization to the collective efforts of the international community deployed in countering terrorism. The existing decisions including those adopted at the Madrid Ministerial Council provide sufficiently broad ground for such an undertaking. As with many other issues in the politico-military agenda of the OSCE, combating terrorism has a cross-dimensional quality and context. Thus, we welcome the Finnish Chairmanship's focus on human rights and rule of law in this regard.

- I also find it worthwhile to reiterate the principled approach of Turkey to counter terrorism: We are fighting this scourge nationally and actively supporting every international effort in this vein. We need to remain united and our point of departure should be to reject and condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, whatever its motivations and origins may be.

- We value the OSCE's police activities, most notably in the areas of fight against organized crime, illicit drugs as well as on community policing. We welcome the shift in the geographical focus of the OSCE's police activities. This gradual shift complements our national policy of technical assistance in police related matters to the countries of Central Asia and Afghanistan.

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- The Border Security and Management Concept of 2005 should be expected to attain more significance in the work of the OSCE in the year 2008 and beyond in view of the OSCE's increased tasking related to Afghanistan.

- The Decision on Afghanistan is one of the most ambitious outcomes of the Madrid Ministerial Council. We were pleased that this unique decision was adopted with relative ease, illustrating common awareness that it has impact and implications for the security of the whole OSCE area. Afghanistan is a partner country which Turkey, like many other participating States in this room, has great stake in Afghanistan's sovereign existence and ability to continue its democratic progress. Indeed, the Turkish Republic shares a long history with Afghanistan. In this vein, we welcome the above-mentioned OSCE Ministerial Council Decision as an additional instrument placed at the disposal of the international community to promote and direct further assistance to Afghanistan. Turkey is conducting, through bilateral and multilateral channels and in coordination with the Government of Afghanistan, a comprehensive assistance program for the said country in the areas of security, development, health, education, construction and investment as well as civil and military capacity building, including police and counter-narcotics training. The establishment by Turkey in Vardak a Provisional Reconstruction Team (PRT) has further extended and upgraded the scope of its contributions to include the spheres of agriculture, social services, infrastructure, gender equality, vocational training and humanitarian aid.

- That the Secretary General has lately presented to the participating States a paper comprising possible OSCE projects related to Afghanistan is a timely intervention, and is an appropriate step inviting us to begin a process to translate the relevant decision into action. We hope that the said paper will provide all of us a solid premise to proceed, and hopefully increase the pace with which we address the issue of OSCE engagement with Afghanistan. The paper is being subject to thorough examination by the Turkish authorities.

- Pending the conclusion of this examination, let me express our satisfaction that the paper contains our offer to provide counter-narcotics training for the Afghan personnel in Ankara. We stand ready to consult with the Secretary General on how to put our offer into operation. The project, which is based on "train the trainer" concept, is fully funded by the Turkish

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Government. Let me also inform that my Government intends to provide financial support to one of the proposed projects, either individually or jointly with other donors.

- In this regard, I believe that the Turkish delegation to this conference would greatly benefit from the discussion which we have here today. On the other hand, the initial discussions which took place lately in the OSCE seem to initiate a debate on the geographical scope of the Ministerial remit as well as institutional matters, involving the issue of utilization of extra budgetary funds and the role of the Permanent Council in the implementation process. We hope that extended debate on certain elements of the Ministerial remit would not result in loss of valuable time.

- OSCE`s efforts in Central Asia is of crucial importance. Our central Asian colleagues play a crucial role in the work of this organization, especially in our global fight against narcotics trafficking and trafficking in human beings. In this context, I believe the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan in 2010 will immensely contribute to the work of the Organization.