

ENGLISH only

STATEMENT BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SLOVAKIA TO
THE OSCE
AT THE MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL OF THE OSCE
29 OCTOBER 2009

Madam Chairperson, distinguished colleagues,

I would like to inform you that on October 21 and 22, the Slovak Atlantic Commission together with Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Defence of the Slovak Republic organized a security conference New Challenges – Better Capabilities. The topics of the conference reflected some of the most pressing issues of international security – e.g. modernization of armed forces, defence capabilities, interoperability, Afghanistan. The respective conference panels touched upon the NATO's continuing transformation, the future of NATO – EU – Russia relationships triangle as well as more practical issues of the new NATO Strategic Concept and the impact of financial and economic crises on defence budgets and security agenda. The conference was organized as a side event to informal NATO Defence Ministers Meeting in Bratislava. For those who want to learn more about the conference - details are available on a conference website www.ncbc.sk.