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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANVAR AZIMOV,
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TO THE OSCE, AT THE OPENING PLENARY SESSION OF THE
2010 OSCE REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Warsaw, 30 September 2010

Mr. Chairperson,
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Russian Federation I should like to warmly greet the numerous participants in this Review Conference, which has been convened in the context of the forthcoming OSCE summit meeting in Astana. We are grateful to the Kazakh Chairmanship and to the Government of Poland for their efficient organization of the meeting that is opening today.

We note with satisfaction that, thanks to the concerted efforts of the Chairmanship and of all the OSCE partners, we have succeeded in making a significant contribution in the run-up to the meeting of Heads of State or Government on 1 and 2 December.

It is a matter of fundamental importance that we have been able to agree on the focus of the summit meeting, namely how best to assist in the formation of a single and indivisible security space, free of dividing lines and zones with different levels of security. It is precisely this idea that is at the heart of the initiative launched by President Medvedev of the Russian Federation calling for the conclusion of a Treaty on European Security.

If we succeed in achieving this noble goal (and we can do this only by rising above the traditional agenda of the OSCE and by concentrating on the examination of the core problems of common security that directly affect the vital interests of countries and nations), then the meeting of heads of State and of all the major international and regional organizations active in the Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian region, convened for the first time after an 11-year break, will mark a genuine turning point, allowing us to restore the tradition of dialogue at the high and highest level in so prestigious a format.

We should like to welcome the position papers that have been prepared by the Kazakh Chairmanship and that outline the basic directions in the movement towards a Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community. They will provide a sound basis for further work on the drafting of the summit's final document within the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation.

We also note the significant contribution to the Astana summit meeting of the Corfu Process, which has without question helped to restore confidence among the OSCE participating States, has made it possible to revive our Organization's role as a political platform for candid dialogue on the basis of equal rights and mutual respect, and also to provide specific initiatives aimed at improving the work of the OSCE and enhancing its role in European security. It is precisely the Corfu Process that made more likely the prospect of a summit meeting and it is precisely within that framework that the preliminary conceptual elaboration of the actual philosophy of the summit was carried out.

We regard the present Conference primarily as a platform for reviewing the implementation of the entire range of commitments that have been assumed within our Organization and also for analysing the possible ways in which the effectiveness of its work can be enhanced and interaction between participating States strengthened.

The aim of the Review Conference is to help to identify and rectify omissions in the implementation of the basic norms and principles of international law enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, the Charter for European Security and other CSCE/OSCE decisions and documents, and to chart a course for establishing predictable relationships between States and organizations.

With regard to the subject of conflict prevention and resolution, we would urge that this subject not be turned into a bone of contention, as has happened more than once in the past, but that an effort be made to arrive at a common vision of how best, on the basis of clear principles and within the framework of established formats, to promote the rapid and effective resolution of existing conflicts and the prevention of new crisis flashpoints.

We regard as one of the key tasks of the Review Conference an exchange of opinions on ways of strengthening the OSCE's institutional framework and transforming the Organization into a fully fledged international organization operating on the basis of a fundamental founding document and with clear rules to govern the activities of its executive structures.

The meeting is to include a review of the situation with regard to arms control, with a particular focus on the adoption of concrete steps aimed at overcoming the crisis surrounding conventional arms control in Europe, the modernization of the pan-European regime of confidence- and security-building measures, by means *inter alia* of a revision of the Vienna Document, and also the approval of an OSCE Programme of Further Action in the area of arms control and confidence-building measures.

It is important to step up co-operation in countering transnational threats, including the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, drug trafficking and other forms of organized crime, not to mention the threats emanating from the territory of Afghanistan.

We are looking forward to increased co-operation in the economic and environmental area. Specifically, the problems of ensuring the security of land transport and of strengthening contacts in the management of migration flows continue to retain all of their relevance.

We intend to place at the centre of the humanitarian segment such general but topical questions as the countering of extremist ideologies (including the dangerous trend towards the revival of Nazism) and protection of ethnic minorities. It is important that attention be focused on tolerance and intercultural dialogue, on countering the traffic in human beings, migration issues and the rules for work in the election area.

We need to recall the undeservedly “forgotten” OSCE commitments, among them the commitments to freedom of movement and the liberalization of visa regimes.

Mr. Chairperson,

We expect that the format and modalities of this Review Conference, a sizeable part of which will take place with the participation of non-governmental organizations, will enable the official delegations together with the representatives of civil society to thoroughly discuss in a constructive and depoliticized manner, on a basis of parity and in an atmosphere of mutual respect, the various aspects involved in the work of the OSCE and to set the course for the future. At the same time, we are convinced that the ideas put forward by various countries are *a priori* of equal value and that, accordingly, they should not be placed in any kind of hierarchical order nor should any attempt be made to use them to draw up a priority list. The actual task at hand is to analyse dispassionately the full range of proposals and to identify those of them around which a consensus can be built.

In conclusion, I should like to stress a fundamental thought: in the next two months all our efforts must be concentrated on achieving at the summit meeting in Astana the strategic goal of forming a new “security community” from Vancouver to Vladivostok.

Thank you for your attention.