

Canadian Delegation to the  
Organization for Security & Cooperation  
in Europe



Délégation du Canada auprès de  
l'Organisation pour la sécurité et la coopération  
en Europe

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**FINAL**

**DELEGATION OF CANADA TO THE OSCE  
OPENING STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR FREDERICKA GREGORY  
ON THE OCCASION OF THE 2010 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW  
CONFERENCE**

**Déclaration liminaire : Délégation canadienne à la Conférence annuelle d'examen de  
la sécurité (CAES) 2010  
(VIENNE- LE 14 JUIN )**

Mr. Chairperson:

Canada joins others in welcoming Kazakh Deputy Foreign Minister Konstantin Zhigalov back to Vienna, on the occasion of the opening of the 2010 Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC), and we wish to thank him for his introductory remarks that will guide our work over the next few days. My statement will concentrate on four broad themes:

**1.) Progrès importants dans le domaine de la sécurité au cours de la dernière année**

Il faut se réjouir de la **signature d'un nouvel accord START**, qui annonce le début d'un nouveau chapitre de l'action en faveur de la sécurité euro-atlantique. Le rôle d'initiative des États-Unis et de la Russie, conjugué aux résultats probants de la **Conférence d'examen du TNP**, donne une impulsion positive à nos efforts. Cela permet aussi d'espérer des progrès similaires dans d'autres domaines – comme la maîtrise des armements classiques, la fin de l'impasse concernant les Forces conventionnelles en Europe (FCE) et des résultats concrets dans les pourparlers de l'OSCE sur l'avenir de la sécurité euro-atlantique et eurasiatique, au titre du « Processus de Corfou » –, avec pour objectif d'accroître la transparence et la confiance des pays de notre vaste région, qui s'étend de Vancouver à Vladivostok.

Dans le cadre de son mandat à la présidence du G-8, cette année, le Canada fait fond sur ces avancées importantes, en complément des travaux de l'OSCE. S'agissant de la non-prolifération, de concert avec ses partenaires du G-8, il s'est attaché à susciter un soutien à la Conférence d'examen du TNP. De même, pour renforcer la sécurité nucléaire, il continuera à collaborer avec ses partenaires du G-8 au sein du Partenariat mondial contre la prolifération des armes de destruction massive et des matières connexes, mis en œuvre sous l'impulsion du G-8. Le G-8 poursuit également son action en ce qui concerne l'Afghanistan et le Pakistan, y compris par le lancement, en mars dernier, de l'Initiative pour la prospérité de la région frontalière entre l'Afghanistan et le Pakistan, afin de créer des conditions économiques favorables dans cette région cruciale. Beaucoup de pays ne disposent pas d'institutions efficaces et responsables qui

leur permettent de remédier à leurs vulnérabilités de sécurité, notamment celles provoquées par un conflit interne, une catastrophe, la criminalité transnationale organisée, le terrorisme et la prolifération des armes. Face à ces menaces en constante évolution, le Canada et ses partenaires du G-8 examinent comment il est possible d'accroître l'efficacité et la cohérence des programmes de renforcement des capacités.

## **2.) Afghanistan and the neighborhood**

For Canada, one of our principal foreign policy priorities remains the **stability of Afghanistan and its neighborhood**. This is key for security of the OSCE area as a whole, and especially those Central Asian countries bordering Afghanistan. For this reason, Canada will continue to advocate that the OSCE should provide capacity-building assistance 'inside' Afghanistan, in addition to its efforts from Russia and neighboring Central Asian states, and that this assistance should be delivered in close collaboration with other relevant international actors in the field.

It is clear that the focus of the international community should now be on helping Afghans reach their goal of a more prosperous and stable future for their country. We therefore support the commitment of the Kazakh OSCE Chairman-in-Office (CiO) to keep the focus on Afghanistan and strengthen the OSCE's engagement with this key regional partner, especially in areas where our Organization has strengths and where its capacity-building work can make a difference. I am thinking, in particular, of such key areas of OSCE expertise as: border security, counter-narcotics, policing, good governance and democracy-building.

On the **crisis in Kyrgyzstan**, Canada wishes to convey its condolences to the families of those who have lost their lives in the renewed outbreak of violence that has gripped the South of the country. My Minister for Foreign Affairs, The Hon. Lawrence Cannon, has urged the restoration of law and order and the restraint by all parties concerned. Immediate attention to the humanitarian needs must have primacy.

Till now, the OSCE and to the Kazakh CiO have demonstrated effective leadership in managing the Kyrgyzstan crisis. A word of thanks goes to the vital role played by the OSCE Centre in Bishkek in coordinating international efforts on the ground, and in providing the interim Government with the best possible advice to respect the rule of law and implement established international practices. The Kyrgyzstan crisis is a test for both the strengths and limits or fragility of our Organization, and our existing multilateral "security tool kit" for addressing regional conflicts. In our view, the crisis underscores the value of our OSCE Field Missions and the importance of using cross-dimensional solutions for managing and preventing conflicts.

## **3.) The OSCE Corfu Process**

Canada remains ready to address substantially any "Corfu" proposal to enhance **Euro-Atlantic security**. In our view, our existing security institutions are sound and NATO and EU enlargement have contributed positively to the security and prosperity of our region. So our collective aim should be to make what we have work even better, by modernizing and strengthening the existing security toolkit, and by finding ways to build trust and confidence for all participating States. In our view, full implementation of OSCE commitments by all - with political will and in good faith - would go a long way to restoring trust and confidence in our region.

**The OSCE's "Corfu Process"** provides a valuable opportunity and vehicle to achieve this goal. Corfu is more than just about the OSCE; it's effected by developments outside of Vienna (like the new START ); it complements changes underway due to NATO's Strategic Review process, and the post-Lisbon Treaty reforms of the EU. We have only begun Corfu's important work; the process is progressing and must continue. Vienna is the right place to discuss - in a comprehensive way - Russian President Medvedev's European Security Treaty proposal, as well as other proposals on the future of Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian Security. We welcome the numerous Food-for-Thought proposals and initiatives that have been tabled to date in this strategic exercise. By focusing on the "new threats" agenda - what by and large unites us - we may have the chance to renew our common purpose and reach our ultimate goal of a region united by cooperative and indivisible security.

"Corfu" has clearly improved the way we listen to each other and our understanding of each other's perspectives on security challenges. We now need to take this exercise a step further by identifying a few key areas or projects where our common purpose is needed to bring about real progress and results in strengthening Euro-Atlantic security. **We see 4 key areas for particular attention in our efforts to restore trust and confidence amongst OSCE participating States:**

- (i) **a reaffirmation of OSCE Commitments, principles and "acquis" by all participating States** (e.g. in charting the way forward, reconfirm that the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, the 1990 Charter of Paris, etc. remain the cornerstones for our cooperative & comprehensive security – across a 3 Dimensions);
- (ii) **progress on Conventional Arms control and CSBMs** (e.g. how can we make the CFE, Open Skies, and Vienna Document 1999 work better?);
- (iii) **focus on common and future challenges : e.g. new transnational threats, and Afghanistan** – where the OSCE's cross-dimensional security, and civil society/public-private networks are needed;
- (iv) **progress on the region's protracted conflicts** - including the return of the OSCE to Georgia. (e.g. here the focus should be on: improved mediation; strengthening the OSCE's early warning and early action capabilities for conflict prevention; enhancing its post-conflict rehabilitation capacities, and its role in fostering sub-regional cooperation);

The aforementioned list could be used as a guide in shaping the agenda of a **possible of OSCE Summit** later this year. Canada looks forward to continuing to work with the Kazakh CiO and other participating States in shaping the substance of such a high-level gathering.

#### **4.) Menaces du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle**

Le Canada demeure convaincu que l'OSCE, par son approche globale et transversale de la sécurité, et par la diversité de ses membres, est bien placée pour s'attaquer aux **menaces du XXI<sup>e</sup> siècle**, et cela par une action complémentaire à celle de l'OTAN, de l'UE, des Nations Unies et d'autres autorités compétentes. Nous sommes confrontés à de nouvelles menaces pour la sécurité restreinte (*hard security*) ou élargie (*soft security*) qui, par leur nature même, se veulent interdépendantes et transnationales. Pour les contrer, il est essentiel de mener une action commune, et plus globale, dans toutes les dimensions de l'OSCE 3.

L'OSCE joue un rôle d'« exécution et de facilitation » important à l'échelle régionale, en aidant les États membres à s'attaquer, dans un cadre infrarégional et collectif, aux menaces transnationales. De même, elle facilite la coopération avec des acteurs internationaux clés, y compris le secteur privé.

Nous estimons qu'elle doit se concentrer sur d'importants enjeux transnationaux, tels que : la prolifération (résolution 1540 du Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies); le terrorisme; la criminalité organisée, inclus le trafic et la traite des personnes; et la cybersécurité. Nous nous réjouissons à la perspective d'examiner plus avant ces questions importantes au cours des séances de travail de la CAES, cette semaine, y compris celle consacrée aux enjeux sécuritaires suscités par l'Afghanistan.

Merçi / Thank you.