

Delegation of Switzerland

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND
AT THE 2013 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 19 and 20 June 2013

Working session I: Transnational threats and challenges

Mr./Madam Chairperson,

The Swiss delegation would like to repeat that it greatly welcomes the ongoing efforts to strengthen co-ordination and coherence in the OSCE with respect to transnational threats.

We should like first to speak about the decision on transnational threats adopted at last year's Ministerial Council meeting in Dublin. Together with the framework decisions by the Permanent Council on terrorism and police work and the drug concept, this decision provides the basis for OSCE efforts to combat transnational threats. The Swiss Chairmanship will advocate the implementation of these concepts.

Terrorism is a challenge that affects all three OSCE security dimensions. We therefore call for a holistic approach to the phenomenon. In this context we propose to work with the OSCE Secretariat, particularly the Action against Terrorism Unit. On the basis of the OSCE Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism (section 18), we are considering the possibility of holding an OSCE-wide counter-terrorism conference in 2014.

We should also like to see more targeted discussion on the better implementation of existing instruments and on possible additional content in the fight against terrorism. In that regard we believe that co-operation with relevant regional and international organizations to be vital.

With regard to cyberthreats, we welcome the substantive progress achieved at the end of May in the informal working group. The elaboration of an initial set of confidence-building measures to reduce the risk of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies is a necessary first step towards increasing inter-State co-operation, transparency, predictability and stability in the use of information and communication technologies.

The informal working should aim to adopt an initial package of measures at the next round of talks in mid-July. We are relying on the constructive collaboration of all States in the achievement of this goal. At all events, the process of strengthening confidence-building measures should be continued to ensure the reliable use of information and communication

technologies in compliance with OSCE commitments and in co-operation with the relevant international organizations.

Developments in neighbouring States to the OSCE region, in particular the Partner for Co-operation Afghanistan, could have a negative impact on the security of OSCE participating States. The security requirements of the potentially affected States as regards border management should be taken seriously by the OSCE.

Border management content offers the OSCE the opportunity to build capacities in the field and to improve networking among authorities. On the basis of the OSCE Border Security and Management Concept of 2005 (MC.DOC/2/05), which offers specific support capabilities for example in the field of terrorism, transborder organized crime, illegal migration and smuggling, it is clear that the border management support capabilities should be used and that the OSCE should function as a partner: OSCE activities in these areas must reflect real needs and aim to build capacities. We call for dialogue so that these instruments can be better used with reference to specific threat scenarios.

We also welcome the efforts of the Border Unit to promote cross-border co-operation in the event of natural disasters and refer in this connection to the successful conduct of the expert seminar last week (13 and 14 June 2013).

Finally, police work in general and international police co-operation in particular form the basis for combating many transnational threats such as organized crime, terrorism, and trafficking in drugs and human beings. Switzerland regards the strengthening of police capacities as fundamental and in this regard it welcomes the adoption of the OSCE Strategic Framework for Police-Related Activities. We shall continue to support the results-oriented implementation of this Framework. In this context we are currently examining options for additional contributions.

Mr./Madam Chairperson, thank you for your attention.