



**PERMANENT DELEGATION  
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT IN RESPONSE TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S REPORT ON OSCE  
POLICE-RELATED ACTIVITIES UP TO THE END OF 2009**

As delivered by Ambassador Guttorm Vik to the Permanent Council  
Vienna, 29 April 2010

Mr. Chairperson,

Like others, Norway welcomes the Secretary General's excellent report on OSCE police-related activities up to the end of 2009, as requested by the Permanent Council in its decision at the Athens Ministerial. The report presents us with valuable information about the experience gained, but is also forward-looking and gives concrete recommendations that deserve to be studied carefully. We are pleased to note that participating states will have the opportunity to do so, both at the Annual Police Experts Meeting 20 – 21 May and at the Annual Security Review Conference in June.

Mr. Chairperson,

Norway agrees with the Secretary General that commitments related to policing have become very important parts of the *political acquis* of the OSCE. We also believe that the comprehensive and holistic approach that the OSCE has taken in the Balkans in this field since the late 1990s undoubtedly has contributed to the overall OSCE success in the region. A policy that encompasses the whole chain of law enforcement activities including the judiciary, the prosecutor's office and the penitentiary as well as policing can serve well as a model for OSCE-supported reforms of law enforcement structures and policies in other regions, where cooperation with host nations in this field is less developed so far.

The OSCE cooperation on policing should, in our opinion, be further reinforced, - not least in order to equip the organization with tools and procedures that will make operations even more effective and efficient. In his report, the Secretary General

puts forward several concrete proposals on how to strengthen internal coordination, improve organizational coherence and safeguard better consistency. They are all well founded, and should be considered positively. For instance, we agree that the OSCE should develop overall policy guidelines for its police-related programmes and strengthen the analytical capabilities, not least in order to meet new transnational threats. In this context, we also take note of the Secretary General's mild warning to participating States that "a choice must be made between allocating additional resources proportionate to each new tasking, or "filtering tasks of lower priority". Here, as well as with regard to OSCE tasks, we need to break the very unhelpful habit of making reference to "within existing resources" when we adopt new mandates without sufficient funding. It is the responsibility of the participating states and this body, the PC in particular, to set priorities and provide the necessary means for our activities.

Mr. Chairperson,

Since the first OSCE policing operations began in 1998, Norway has consistently attached great importance to the development of a close cooperation within the OSCE on law enforcement activities. Over the years, we have been able to provide substantial support. Let me assure you that we aim to continue to do so.

Thank you.