



ҚАЗАҚСТАН РЕСПУБЛИКАСЫНЫҢ
ЕҚЫҰ ЖАНЫНДАҒЫ ТҰРАҚТЫ ӨКІЛДІГІ

PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE

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**Statement by the delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the OSCE
at the 764th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
10 June 2009**

**Information on the Seminar “Future OSCE Chairmanships: Policies and
Challenges” held on 9 June 2009 in Vienna**

Thank you, Madam Chairperson,

I would like to inform our distinguished audience that seminar titled “Future OSCE Chairmanships: Policies and Challenges” was held on the 9th of June in Vienna in the Military History Museum. It was a joint event organised by Austria and Kazakhstan in cooperation with DCAF – Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces.

First of all I would like to have the liberty of thanking the Austrian Government for initiating the idea of holding this event as well as for taking tireless efforts in dealing with organizational issues, particularly the Permanent Mission of Austria to OSCE. My sincere thanks also go to DCAF – Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces - for their valuable support.

At the Seminar the discussions were arranged in three panels 1) Policies of the OSCE Chairmanships in Office 2009, 2010 and 2011, 2) Cooperation in the area of defence and security, including border management and the fight against terrorism, 3) The human dimension, including minority rights and policy.

The event has provided excellent opportunity to highlight the challenges and tasks that the future chairmanships of OSCE are likely to face. The extensive exchange of views on the said issues has been useful and productive, particularly for us, as the incoming Chairmanship, and I believe for Lithuania as well, which is going to chair in 2011.

The seminar has been another show of support to my country on the eve of its OSCE chairmanship. Here I agree with the opinion of Mr. Stefan Lehne, Political Director, Ministry for European and International Affairs, Austria, that in conjunction with upcoming Kazakh chairmanship the focus of the OSCE will shift towards Central Asia. We are confident that both Central Asia and the rest of the participating states will benefit from close interaction within the OSCE family, since each of us has something to share or to learn. Particularly, I think, Kazakhstan’s well established geopolitical position, its close links with other Eurasian

countries and intergovernmental organisations could help strengthen OSCE's links with our part of the world.

It was a well attended event and we are thankful to the Austrian officials, representatives of our esteemed participating states, OSCE partner countries as well as the dignitaries of OSCE institutions such as ODIHR, CPC, ATU and HCNM and representatives of research centres for their valuable contributions to the work of the seminar.

Thank you.