

ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (8 to 14 June)

OSCE Chairmanship's Special Envoy participated in OSCE implementation meeting on promoting tolerance, inter-cultural, inter-religious and inter-ethnic understanding

ALMATY, 12-13 June 2006 - The Special Envoy of the Chairmanship, Senator Pierre Chevalier, participated in an OSCE implementation meeting on promoting tolerance, inter-cultural, inter-religious and inter-ethnic understanding.

The meeting was inaugurated by Kazakhstan's President Nursultan Nazarbayev and brought together representatives of the 55 OSCE participating States, its Institutions and field operations, the Asian and Mediterranean partners for co-operation, as well as representatives of international and non-governmental organizations.

In his opening remarks Senator Pierre Chevalier said that tolerance is part of the 'core business' of a security organization like the OSCE, and stressed the commitment of the Belgian Chairmanship to furthering the Organization's activities in this field.

The OSCE Chairman-in-Office opened the OSCE donors' Conference on economic rehabilitation in the zone of the Georgian-Ossetian conflict

BRUSSELS, 14 June 2006 – An OSCE Donor Conference on Economic Rehabilitation in the zone of the Georgian – South-Ossetian took place in Brussels, at the initiative of the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship. This conference was opened by the Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht. Georgian Prime Minister Zurab Nogaideli addressed the meeting.

The donor conference raised an equivalent of more than 10 million euro in support of a package of projects for social and economic rehabilitation of the region, on which all parties have agreed.