



ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE (14 to 20 September)

OSCE Chairman-in-Office called for investigation into death of imprisoned Turkmen journalist

BRUSSELS, 15 September 2006 - The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, expressed deep concern about the death in custody of Radio Free Europe reporter and human rights activist Ogulsapar Muradova. Minister De Gucht urged Turkmenistan's authorities to immediately begin a full and impartial investigation into the circumstances surrounding her death.

OSCE does not recognize Transdniestrian independence referendum, Chairman-in-Office said, recalling July statement

BRUSSELS, 18 September 2006 – The OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister Karel De Gucht, said that the OSCE does not recognize the referendum on independence held on 17 September in the Transdniestrian region of Moldova and does not support a unilateral referendum which calls into question the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova.

Minister De Gucht expressed concern that this referendum will further complicate the situation in the region and called on the Transdniestrian authorities to re-join the negotiation process instead of organizing referenda.

OSCE Chairmanship's Special Envoy met the UN High Representative for Landlocked Countries

NEW YORK, 18 September 2006 - The Special Envoy of the Chairmanship, Senator Pierre Chevalier, met UN High Representative for Landlocked Countries, Anwarul Chowdhury.