

Remarks by Mr. Takeshi KAMIYAMA, Deputy Head of Mission, Minister, Embassy of Japan, on the occasion of the 18th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
“Promoting good governance at border crossings, improving the security of land transportation and facilitating international transport by road and rail in the OSCE region”

2 February 2010

The Delegation of Japan has participated in this meeting with active interest, following the preparatory conference of last October in Astana.

Building up infrastructures for the transfer of goods is of much importance for the development of the region on its own.

Japan started off a “Central Asia and Japan Dialogue” in 2004. This scheme is intended to promote various interregional cooperations, and thus, to intensify contacts and cooperations with the Central Asian States.

Several meetings were held so far, including the ones at Foreign Ministers level, which were organised twice.

Against this backdrop we expect the process now underway in the OSCE towards Prague this year, to feed us with valuable ideas/suggestions on ways and means to promote various interregional cooperations in terms of the infrastructures for transfer of goods and so forth.

Dear Colleagues,

Involvement of Japan intended in the second Dimension of the OSCE is conceived in terms of its possible contribution in the OSCE as a while and ahead, which would preclude too much preoccupation with the Corfu process and its ramifications. We believe that moving forward in the Economic and Environmental Dimension is closely linked to a progress in the confidence building field of the OSCE.

Mr. Chairman,

As a first step, sharing of useful ideas as well as contacts at various levels is of utmost significance.

At this juncture, Japan hosts the fourth round of the “Central Asian and Japan Dialogue” in Tokyo at the end of this month.

This “Tokyo Dialogue” is held at experts level with those travelling from the five Central Asian States, and the meeting focuses on building up of future infrastructures for transfer of goods in Central Asia.

We expect expertise to be shared in Tokyo to be referred to in the OSCE context as well. We would be ready to provide the Organisation with such document as chairman’s summary of the upcoming Tokyo Dialogue.