

ENGLISH only



United States Mission to the OSCE

Restructuring the TIP Mechanism

As delivered by Chargé d' Affaires Kyle Scott
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
June 15, 2006

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

As other delegations know, my authorities were very reluctant to see this decision move forward in the form it has. But given the importance of the issue and the high priority we place on it, we have agreed to allow it move to the silence procedure, because we think it is extremely important that this position be filled quickly by an appointment of a highly-qualified individual.

I just wanted to inform delegations that it is our hope that - while this is not the structure that we would have preferred – that in fact this decision will be adopted through the expiration of the silence procedure and at that time it will be the intention of my delegation to make a statement after the adoption of the decision at the first regular Permanent Council session, which will note not only the importance of filling this position quickly with a highly-qualified individual, but also that the decision taken was the result of a very unique set of circumstances and in the view of my delegation that this decision in no way sets any precedent for the placement of other Representatives of the Chairman-in-Office or other high-level positions of this organization.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.