



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT ON A PROPOSED OSCE SUMMIT

As delivered by Ambassador Guttorm Vik
to the Special Session of the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 25 June, 2010

Mr. Chairperson,

I am pleased to join previous speakers in welcoming the Special Envoy of the Chairperson-in-Office, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, H.E. Konstantin Zhigalov, to the Permanent Council, and thanking him for his clear and constructive introduction to our deliberations.

I can be fairly brief in my comments, because I can subscribe fully to the views put forward by Spain on behalf of the EU.

We are also indebted to the EU for the excellent paper entitled “Proposed OSCE Summit” that was tabled 10 days ago, which provides us with the conceptual framework for a possible summit meeting, its objectives and contents, in a very clear and concise manner. Judging by preliminary reactions, and notably the impressive number of affiliations with the EU statement, this concept also enjoys the broad support of the overwhelming majority of participating States.

I noted with interest and satisfaction that there also seemed to be a large measure of convergence between the EU concept and the conceptual approach of the Chairmanship, as it was just outlined by Deputy Minister Zhigalov.

At the same time, I must confess to some concern after the first round of discussions on the draft interim report on Wednesday, which clearly showed that there is no agreement on any of the very constructive and reasonable proposals put forward in the Corfu process on strengthened mechanisms for conflict prevention and crisis management, improved implementation of commitments etc. It also seems very doubtful that sufficient progress can be made between now and the end of the year to finalize agreement on a significant number of these proposals at a possible “harvesting” summit.

It remains to be seen if we can agree on the framework for a re-launching and strengthening of OSCE cooperation in all areas, including a revitalization of our pol.mil. cooperation, to be adopted at a possible “launching summit”.

I would like to emphasize that a summit must be action-oriented and forward-looking. An “assessment” or an “anniversary” or a “unification” or a “reconciliation” summit is not likely to attract the participation of many heads of state or government.

In conclusion, we hope that we can agree to work towards a summit broadly in line with the concepts presented in the EU paper, and we pledge our support to that end.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson