



**DELEGATION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN TO THE OSCE**

ENGLISH only

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**Statement by
the delegation of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the OSCE,
at the 859 plenary meeting of the Permanent Council,
Vienna, 14 April 2011**

(On President Nazarbayev's inaugural address,
under the agenda item "Any other business")

**Mr. Chairperson,
Dear colleagues,**

As you are aware, the last presidential election in Kazakhstan (3 April 2011) indicated overwhelming support for President Nursultan Nazarbayev, his political platform and policies. Such a strong support reflects genuine appreciation of the President Nazarbayev's considerable achievements in office and the prospect of further successful reforms.

This was the most open and transparent election ever held in my country in terms of administration and compliance with democratic norms, principles and commitments. It is not just my Government's opinion, but the unbiased assessment by the overwhelming majority of international and domestic observers whom the Kazakhstan authorities invited and who enjoyed free access to the places of their professional interest.

What is more important, this is the assessment of the people of Kazakhstan who are the only owners, primary observers and, if I may say so, – the judges of any election in their own country. That is why, in his inaugural address on 8 of April, President Nazarbayev focused on his strong intention to implement further democratic reforms, which includes inter alia:

- expanding the authorities of the Parliament;
- increasing the Government's accountability;
- improving the electoral process;
- decentralizing the power;
- ensuring further development of a free media;
- improving the efficiency of the judiciary;
- combating corruption.

As you can note from this address, the four key notions to guide my President's policies are modernization, people's prosperity, innovations and integration, with modernization holding the first place among four equally important imperatives.

The English version of President Nazarbayev's address at the inauguration ceremony will be circulated.

Thank you.