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**STATEMENT BY MR. ROBERT MÜLLER,  
MINISTER PLENIPOTENTIARY WITH THE AUSTRIAN FEDERAL  
MINISTRY FOR EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS, AT  
THE OSCE WORKSHOP TO IDENTIFY THE PROPER ROLE OF THE  
OSCE IN FACILITATION OF UNITED NATIONS  
SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1540**

Vienna, 28 January 2011

Mr. Moderator,

Since this is the first time that my delegation has taken the floor at this workshop, I should like to take this opportunity to express our condolences to the Russian people and the Russian Government following the tragic events at Domodedovo airport. There were unfortunately Austrian citizens among the victims of that terrorist attack. This crime strengthens our conviction that a joint approach to combating terrorism is essential.

Our special thanks go to the organizers and co-sponsors of this workshop, in particular Mr. Vaclovas Semaskevicius, the OSCE adviser for the United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 project.

The OSCE Astana Declaration contains a clear mandate to intensify the efforts to combat transnational threats, and these threats include proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The presentations given yesterday and today have provided us with a good overview of what is already being done to implement Security Council resolution 1540 and where there is still much more work to be carried out. Our two-year membership of the United Nations Security Council, which has just come to an end, made it graphically clear to us how significant good co-operation among States, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and industry is in combating proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. It is clear to us that the global efforts currently under way to implement this United Nations Security Council resolution could be usefully expanded through regional activities.

I should also like to take this opportunity to mention Vienna's considerable potential for synergy as the headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency, the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the OSCE and numerous NGOs, and to make reference to the forthcoming official opening of the Vienna Centre for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation on 25 February. I would now invite the relevant OSCE units to begin close co-operation with that centre.

As Austria mentioned at the expert meeting on United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 in Vienna in December, Austria is still prepared to make an important contribution to the implementation of Security Council resolution 1540 and is very much in favour of holding the relevant meetings regarding the implementation of this resolution in co-operation with other initiators.

Now let me say a few words about the role of the OSCE and the list of specific proposals that you have drawn up. Austria welcomes the proposals regarding greater use of OSCE field operations in support of OSCE training activities in this area. The training activities concerned with container security and supply chain security mentioned by the Action against Terrorism Unit are of particular interest to us. If need be, combining such projects with activities in the area of border security, for example the falsification of documents, might be considered. The capacities of the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe could also be used and strengthened in this connection. We are also in favour of the proposed drafting of a specific OSCE handbook of best practices, similar to the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on Small Arms and Light Weapons, as well as support in the drafting of national implementation plans and the updating of the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation.

Mr. Moderator,

Thank you for your attention.