



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

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**Statement by Delegation of Kazakhstan
OSCE-UNECE Inland Transport Security Round Table
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Mr. Chairperson,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished Participants,

It is an honour and a great pleasure for me to take part in the Opening Session of this joint OSCE-UNECE Expert Round Table being held in the framework of the Inland Transport Security Discussion Forum. I join the Chairman in welcoming to this Roundtable the representatives from national governments, international organizations, civil society, the private sector and academia. It is a pleasure also to welcome our distinguished speakers, moderators and panellists. We look very much forward to your thoughts and ideas and your guidance to our discussions.

I congratulate the organizers for having prepared such an interesting agenda, for bringing together such an impressive list of inland transport security experts and national participants, and for all their efforts for a smooth set up of this meeting. A sincere “thank you” goes to Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Co-ordinator of the Economic and Environmental Activities, and his able staff, as well as to Ms. Eva Molnar, Director of the UNECE Transport Division and her team.

This Expert Round Table is a direct follow-up to last year’s Economic and Environmental Forum process under the Kazakh OSCE Chairmanship and in my view it clearly meets the current requirements and needs of our region. Particularly at a time in which many countries continue to face economic challenges safeguarding the security of the international transport circuit remains a key issue. **How else can we make sure that our goods and cargo find their way from the producers to the consumers in a safe, timely and predictable manner?** The issue of predictability is a necessary pre-condition for international trade and transport and it can only be guaranteed when transport policies (including those pertaining to security) are co-

ordinated and agreed upon among countries and to the extent possible harmonized and streamlined.

Transport development and security remain a high priority for my country which, as most of you are aware, is centrally located offering a land bridge between Asia (where China is the world's largest producer of consumer goods) and Europe (among the largest consuming regions). By means of our geographical location we play a tangible role in linking the markets in the Far East with those in the West.

Having a strong interest in this topic and having gained experience in this field, we stand ready to share our knowledge with all participating States as well as we are eager to learn from other countries. It is therefore with great pleasure that I can announce that in the course of tomorrow's afternoon session a senior representative of the Kazakh Ministry of Transport and Communications will share with you information on my Government's efforts and policies in creating a more secure transport environment. It is also based on the same rationale that my Government (together with the Belgian Government – as Mr. Rene Van Bever just mentioned) decided to co-fund this Round Table and the subsequent publication of the expert papers and reviews.

In conclusion, in my Delegation's view we would be glad if this two-day Round Table will result in the adoption of a more 'systematic approach' towards inland transport security. We would welcome proposals for initiatives of bringing existing approaches and policies closer to each other. This meeting should enable us also to better define the current strong points but also the deficiencies, if any, and it should offer a fertile ground on the basis of which new more comprehensive inland transport security policies can be developed. Kazakhstan is more than willing to continue contributing to the efforts of the international community in this regard.

Thank you for your attention!