



PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY
TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE
VIENNA

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR TACAN İLDEM,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY**

**AT THE 938TH MEETING OF THE
PERMANENT COUNCIL**

24 January 2013

Mr. Chairperson,

We strongly condemn the terrorist attack perpetrated on 16 January 2013 at the gas plant in the In Amenas region located in southeastern Algeria. We are deeply saddened by the fact that the attack resulted in loss of lives as well as injuries. I would like to convey our sincere condolences and deep sympathy to the families of those who lost their lives in this heinous attack and wish a speedy recovery to the wounded. We express our solidarity with the friendly people of Algeria and its government that has taken a determined act against terrorism.

I would also like to take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the assistance and cooperation provided by the Algerian authorities with a view to ensuring the safety of three Turkish citizens who were in the region where the attack was perpetrated. Our three citizens have safely returned to Turkey thanks to the extensive efforts of local authorities and the international community.

Turkey has consistently emphasized that terrorism, which can have no justification whatsoever, is a crime against humanity that recognizes neither religion nor nationality. This recent attack once again proves this character of the threat and the necessity for the international community to remain vigilant. International solidarity and sustained effective

coordination in the fight against terrorism is the only way for our efforts to succeed in the face of this scourge. With this attack, we are once again reminded of the need for the international community to adopt a common approach for condemning terrorism in an unequivocal way as well as isolating and bringing before justice those who are responsible for terrorist attacks.

Turkey is determined to continue to cooperate with the Algerian authorities in the field of fight against terrorism. At the same time, we would like to see the continued dialogue and enhanced cooperation between the OSCE and Algeria in the field of fight against all transnational threats. The close connection between terrorists and other transnational criminal organisations is well-known to all of us. Revenue generated from organized crime is a primary source of terrorist financing. Therefore the fight must also target as a priority the corruption, money-laundering and terrorism financing that enables terrorist and criminal organizations to function in the wide OSCE-area. Our organization has an important role to play to assist both participating and partner States in all of these fields.

Mr. Chairperson,

Before I conclude, I would like to inform all participating and partner States that a press statement that includes these elements was made by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 21 January 2013.

Thank you.