

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 2010 ANNUAL SECURITY
REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 14 June 2010

Working Session I: Transnational threats and challenges

Mr. Chairperson,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Russia, which together with the United States of America was a co-sponsor of Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/09 adopted in Athens, supports the development and strengthening of the work of our Organization to combat transnational threats and challenges to security and stability.

Priority in co-operation is increasingly given today to tasks connected with countering terrorism. In that connection, Russia is developing its international co-operation to combat the global threat of terrorism with due regard for the central and co-ordinating role of the United Nations.

We believe that the OSCE is living up to its role as an effective “conductor” of United Nations counter-terrorism resolutions in the pan-European environment, something that is of great importance not only in the context of international counter-terrorism efforts but also in confirming the Organization’s unique position in the global “division of labour”, particularly in terms of combating terrorism. We might mention in this connection the priority of further development of the public-private counter-terrorism partnership and the willingness of the Russian Federation to make a decisive contribution to this work, including through the involvement of the business community and civil society institutions in activities to counter terrorism.

We are pleased to note that a number of important counter-terrorism events have already been held in 2010 under the auspices of the OSCE: on public-private partnership in the protection of critical energy infrastructure against terrorist attacks, on ensuring the security of land transport, on the implementation of the four universal counter-terrorism instruments of 2005, on support for accession to the International Civil Aviation Organization Public Key Directory, and on the criminal law aspects of countering terrorism at sea in the context of existing universal instruments.

We welcome the well-known decisions initiated by the Russian Federation on the holding under the auspices of the Kazakh Chairmanship of the OSCE in Astana on 20 and 21 October 2010 of a major conference on the theme “Successful Strategies, Effective Policies and Best Practices to Prevent Terrorism”, which is likely to be the key counter-terrorism event of the year. We intend to send a representative interdepartmental delegation to that event. We also believe that the results of the conference in Astana will create a basis for the elaboration of a substantial high-level OSCE counter-terrorism document.

We are in favour of holding annual counter-terrorism events within the OSCE to be financed from the budget, including an event to be held next year. We support the proposals for strengthening the personnel organization and financing of the OSCE Secretariat’s Action against Terrorism Unit.

Mr. Chairperson,

The growing scale of drug trafficking poses one of the most serious threats to all humanity. Despite the measures being taken at all levels, the world community has not as yet managed to achieve a breakthrough in overcoming this problem.

Most evident is the growing drug threat emanating from the territory of Afghanistan, which remains the absolute leader in terms of opiate production. In our view, the spread of synthetic drugs, cocaine, cannabis and other types of narcotics around the world is no less a threat.

In view of the comprehensive and multifaceted nature of the drug problem, there is also a need for the same kind of systematic approach in countering this phenomenon. In this connection, we note the results of the international forum “Drug Production in Afghanistan: A Challenge to the International Community” recently held in Moscow. Speaking at that forum, Russian President Dmitry Medvedev stressed that the current threat of Afghan drugs is of a global nature and that no country in the world will therefore be able to deal with it on its own. The only way out of this situation is in unity with all interested countries. And this is the key to solving this problem.

We are in favour of stepping up the OSCE’s comprehensive efforts to counter the drug threat, including through the implementation of the three anti-drug conventions of 1961, 1971 and 1988 and other important United Nations documents, assistance in the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1817 and the continuation of the practice of holding annual anti-drug conferences in Vienna, which we believe should receive proper financing from the budget. We welcome in this connection the decision by the Kazakh Chairmanship to hold the next such conference in Vienna on 8 and 9 July.

We are interested in the continued implementation and expansion of projects to train specialists in the anti-drug services of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan at the Domodedovo Centre. We intend to develop the potential of these programmes in the future as well.

We believe that the elaboration of a comprehensive concept for the Organization’s work to combat drugs would be an important and systematic step in the OSCE’s work to

counter the drug threat as it would help to streamline, co-ordinate and consolidate its work and disseminate best practices in this area.

Mr. Chairperson,

The development and ongoing improvement of information and communication technologies increase the need to ensure international information security, which is an integral part of cyber security.

We believe that a significant step in this direction has already been taken by the world community. Moreover, the main work is being undertaken within the United Nations, where beginning with the 63rd session, the United Nations General Assembly has adopted a resolution “Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security”. In accordance with that resolution, the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security is currently carrying out its work, and the Secretary-General’s report to the 65th session of the General Assembly in 2010 will be prepared on the basis of its results.

We believe that there is a need for regulation under international law and the elaboration of an agreed international platform for information security primarily at a universal level. Significant results were produced at the 12th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice held in Brazil from 12 to 19 April 2010, at which most countries spoke in favour of drafting a universal international convention with the participation of all interested countries.

To ensure that it occupies its rightful place, the OSCE should devise a concept in this area setting out priorities and the basic aspects of its work. We believe that the elaboration and agreement of any kind of substantial document within the OSCE will be possible only if the position of all countries, including the Russian Federation, is taken into account.

Thank you for your attention.