

Delegation of Switzerland

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND AT THE OPENING SESSION  
OF THE 2012 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 26 June 2012

Mr. Chairperson,

The Swiss delegation would like first to thank you and your team and the Conflict Prevention Centre for the preparation and conduct of this year's Annual Security Review Conference. We should also like to thank Secretary General Zannier for the organization of the Security Days yesterday. We found it extremely useful to be able to cultivate direct dialogue with eminent think-tank representatives. We welcome the Secretary General's intention of repeating this event.

Views on the European security architecture remain diverse. This confirms the OSCE's vital role as a dialogue forum with broad composition. Confidence- and security-building measures are more important than ever today. The relevant discussion on disarmament and conventional arms control should once again take place within the OSCE. We welcome the announcement last week by the Ukrainian Minister for Foreign Affairs of his commitment to this.

We have the following expectations with regard to the forthcoming thematic working sessions:

1. **Transnational dangers:** In this area we should work towards a successful breakthrough for the three decisions on drug control, terrorism and police co-operation. We also welcome the creation of the new working group on cybersecurity, which will strengthen the OSCE's role in combating transnational dangers. The OSCE should focus on its particular strengths and work complementarily to and in co-operation with other international organizations.
2. **Conflict cycle:** The conflict cycle is the core business of the OSCE. We now need to implement the decision adopted in Vilnius. In particular, the dialogue and mediation capacities of the OSCE should be strengthened. Switzerland will make a mediation expert available to the OSCE to help it build up a mediation support unit. The OSCE should consolidate the existing experience it has acquired everywhere more effectively and use it more systematically.

3. **Vienna Document/Code of Conduct/Small Arms and Light Weapons:** We would like to see the intensive negotiations in the Forum for Security Co-operation on the Vienna Document 2011 turned into substantive adaptations. In addition, we welcome the holding for the first time of discussion on the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. Finally, we also support the efforts for further development of the Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

4. **Partner countries:** We believe that the greater involvement of partner countries in the work of the politico-military dimension is worth considering. Switzerland will chair the Contact Group with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation next year. We are intent on intensifying dialogue with the partner countries. Both sides need to identify meaningful areas for co-operation and to effectively implement the partnership decision adopted in Vilnius.

Mr. Chairperson,

Our Heads of State or Government committed themselves in Astana to a common security community. The 40th anniversary of the existence of our Organization will provide a further opportunity to reach further milestones on the way to this community. Switzerland is willing in particular to commit itself to effective confidence- and security-building measures and to arms control. Together with Serbia we intend to elaborate a joint two-year working plan for the future OSCE Chairmanships and to involve ourselves actively in the work of Helsinki +40.

Thank you for your attention.