



## **Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**

**Statement by the OSCE Secretary General,  
Ambassador Ján Kubiš,  
At the Summit of the GUUAM States**

*Chisinau, 22 April 2005*

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour to be a special guest at this Summit of GUUAM Heads of State. The OSCE has traditionally been invited to observe the proceedings of GUUAM Summits, and I am glad that this tradition continues now, when your bilateral and regional co-operation has been given a new basis, spirit and perspective. I would like to thank H.E. President Vladimir Voronin and H.E. the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Andrei Stratan, for the excellent hospitality.

For the OSCE, developments in and relations with GUUAM and its countries – all OSCE participating States – have a special significance.

The OSCE, through the activities of its participating States and the work of its field operations, Institutions and the Secretariat, has provided much assistance to GUUAM states in democratic institution building, establishment of the rule of law and conduct of free and fair elections. The GUUAM and the OSCE have many common concerns and tasks on their agenda, such as the fight against terrorism, trafficking in human beings, drugs and arms, organized crime or corruption. The OSCE also works with GUUAM states in the economic and environmental and politico-military dimensions. Most importantly, we continue our work to promote peaceful settlement of existing conflicts on the territory of GUUAM member states. The recent changes in the region should give new impetus to such peaceful solution of conflict.

In this context, I have listened with great interest to the statement of H.E. President Yuschenko concerning political settlement of the Transdnistriian conflict. No surprise, the OSCE is one of the mediators and is prepared to continue to play an active role in the conflict settlement process.

All in all, the OSCE highly values its co-operation with GUUAM and each of its states and is prepared to continue with this co-operation, in close co-ordination with our international partners. Many of them were mentioned in your statements, notably the EU.

The OSCE takes good note of the fact that GUUAM members have decided to give GUUAM a new lease on life, as a partnership for democracy, stability and prosperity, promoting their bilateral and regional co-operation as well as co-operation with their neighboring countries.

Successful regional co-operation can indeed contribute significantly to the realization of economic and social goals, promoting of democracy and development, as well as to the strengthening of regional security and stability.

Last, but not least, I also hope that GUUAM and its members will actively support the OSCE at this critical moment in the OSCE's history and will contribute constructively to the process of the OSCE's reform.

Thank you.