

**REMARKS**

**By H.E. Ms. Anna E. Fotyga  
Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland  
at the 14th Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council  
(Brussels, 4 December 2006)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

It's my privilege to speak after the Georgian Foreign Minister. I would like first to join previous speakers in thanking Minister Karel de Gucht for his hard work throughout the whole year. Our meeting here in Brussels in practical terms summarizes Belgian Chairmanship of the OSCE. I associate myself with remarks delivered by Minister Tuomioja of Finland on behalf of the European Union but I would like to add few words in national capacity.

Poland's speciality is perhaps historical remarks so let me begin with some history. Last year we commemorated the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Helsinki final act. Its provisions enabled the activities of the Polish opposition, this also led to the holding of first free elections in our region in 1989.

For this reason it should come as no surprise that Poland provides such a strong support to the Warsaw-based office of ODIHR and its activities on securing free and democratic elections.

Mr. Chairman,

We in Poland are very perceptive to some historical legacies of the past period.

The historical events that I mentioned have unfortunately also left their dim legacies: some of them military, some economic, some political. Let me only point to the so called local or "frozen conflicts" in the OSCE area.

We fully support the freedom, independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia and Moldova. We would like to remind about the importance of the CFE Treaty and the necessity of fulfilment of the remaining Istanbul Commitments regarding Georgia and Moldova.

Mr. Chairman,

The ODIHR's report to the Ministerial Council on the implementation of the OSCE's commitments in the Human Dimension deserves our special attention. It points out to the problems the OSCE's States still face in this area and suggests ways of improving the situation. We should do our utmost to ensure that this report is brought to the attention of our authorities.

Mr. Chairman,

There is also a very important issue in our second, economic dimension. I have in mind energy security. The recent provisions about it in OSCE, EU and recently in NATO documents contribute to raising the awareness these issues for our common security.

At the end I would like to wish good luck and pledge our support and co-operation for Minister Moratinos and the Spanish Chairmanship in their efforts to build security in the region.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.