

25.5.2005

13th Meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum

Statement of the Czech Republic in reply to the Principality of Liechtenstein under Agenda item: Review of Implementation of OSCE commitments in the economic and environmental dimension on “Integration, Trade and Transport”

The Czech Republic has to reject the accusation by the Principality of Liechtenstein of non-compliance with the OSCE Bonn Document’s provisions of 1990 from the Czech Republic’s side while recognising the importance of the Document. Furthermore, the Czech Republic cannot agree with attempts at retroactively applying OSCE commitments of the 1990 Bonn Document to deeds, events and phenomena of a distant past;

It is our long-standing and well-known position that the Economic and Environmental Dimension of the OSCE, including the Economic Forum as its principal event, should not be burdened with bilateral issues (let alone property claims);

The Czech Republic reiterates on this occasion that it remains interested in rectifying the anomaly in bilateral relations with the Principality of Liechtenstein which is the only OSCE participating state which has failed to recognise the Czech Republic and to establish diplomatic relations with it. The Czech Republic has always been ready to make those two steps, which however, must be unconditional. We also believe that the Government of the Czech Republic has demonstrated enough good will to develop friendly relations between these two countries.