



**PERMANENT MISSION  
OF TURKEY TO THE OSCE**

**STATEMENT BY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY,  
AMBASSADOR TACAN ILDEM  
881<sup>TH</sup> MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL  
22 SEPTEMBER 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

First of all, I would like to thank those, namely the Chairperson-in-Office Minister Azubalis, the EU member countries, those countries that have aligned themselves to the EU statement, the United States, Russian Federation and Canada who expressed their sympathy and solidarity with Turkey and their firm stand in condemning the recent terrorist attacks that were perpetrated in my country. We have also noted their affirmation of the importance of uniting ourselves in the fight against the scourge of terrorism.

We are determined to combat terrorism in all its forms and to take all necessary measures to ensure the security of our citizens. In our combat against terrorism we count on the effective international support and cooperation of our partners.

Taking this opportunity, as has been briefly alluded to by my distinguished colleague from the United States, I would like to inform you that a new, informal, multilateral body on counter-terrorism, namely the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum will be launched today. Turkey is among the 30 founding members of the Forum and will assume the initial responsibility to co-chair the strategic-level Coordinating Committee of the Forum together with the United States.

The Forum aims to take a more strategic approach to civilian counter-terrorism efforts and help to increase the number of countries capable of dealing with the terrorist challenge. It will serve as a mechanism for furthering the implementation of the universally-agreed UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and, more broadly, complement and reinforce existing multilateral counter-terrorism efforts, starting with those of the United Nations.

Thank you.