



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

**Statement by Norway in response to the report by the
Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities
Permanent Council no 560, 23 June 2005**

Norway joins others in thanking Mr. Swiecicky, the Co-ordinator of Economic and Environmental Activities, for his report to the Permanent Council. We have listened with great interest to his reflections based on his experience over the last three years. Since this is Mr. Swiecicki's last appearance in the PC we would like to thank him for dedicated efforts to strengthen the Economic and Environmental Dimension. It has been a pleasure to co-operate with him.

Regarding the 2005 Economic Forum we extend again our gratitude to the Slovenian Chairmanship and the Czech host. We appreciated the exchange of views in Prague, and look forward to further discuss the follow-up activities contained in document EF.GAL/34/05. I also take this opportunity to express Norway's general support to the theme and structure of the 2006 Economic Forum as described in the draft decision of the incoming Belgian chairmanship.

On a more general note, Mr. Chairman, the Economic and Environmental Dimension has developed a great deal over the last years. The Strategy is in place, the field activities in this dimension have increased, and the dimension plays a more important role in OSCE's comprehensive approach to security. Indeed, OSCE's Economic and Environmental Dimension has been enhanced significantly, and we appreciate Mr. Swiecicki's contribution to this end.

In our view, one important aspect of the future work to strengthen this dimension should be to ensure coherence. That means ensuring that the Economic Forum, the Economic Subcommittee, the Office of the Co-ordinator, and the activities in the field, act in coherence to achieve our goals. These different components, or pillars, within the dimension should be seen as tools for implementing the Economic and Environmental Strategy adopted in Maastricht, focussing on where the OSCE can add value and how decisions made can be put into practice.

In closing, we would once again like to thank Mr. Swiecicki and wish him all the best for the future.