

Delegation of Germany

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY AT THE  
2010 ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE**

Vienna, 15 June 2010

**Working Session III: The role and perspectives of arms control and  
confidence- and security-building regimes in building trust in the  
evolving security environment**

The Corfu Process offers an appropriate framework, legitimated by the OSCE participating States, to reflect on and confirm the value and goals of conventional arms control in Europe, including confidence- and security-building measures, on a strategic level and in an informal and frank exchange.

The Federal Republic of Germany is convinced that conventional arms control, including confidence- and security-building measures, will continue in the future to be irreplaceable for any co-operative security architecture in Europe.

In this context, confidence- and security-building measures based on information and verification are essential components of a comprehensive European security architecture, characterized by co-operation, military predictability and verification. Out of this system of co-operative security structures, a culture of conflict avoidance and conflict prevention has developed.

At the centre of the confidence- and security-building measures is the Vienna Document 1999. Through comprehensive information exchange and inspections on the ground, the participating States lay bare their military capabilities and show that they have nothing to hide from each other. This creates transparency and confidence and reduces mutual distrust.

The fact that after the first Vienna Document of 1990 there were three new documents in the 1990s (in 1992, 1994 and 1999) is an impressive indication of how flexibly one can respond to the changing conditions in Europe with this instrument for confidence- and security-building measures if there is the necessary political will to do so.

The OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Athens on 1 and 2 December 2009, in Decision No. 16/09 concerning the Forum for Security Co-operation, gave a mandate for strengthening the Vienna Document. We should now, in the implementation of this mandate, all work actively and resolutely together on the modernization of the Vienna Document 1999 and ensure that the momentum that we have achieved is not lost. We have taken up an

initiative by Denmark, actively supported by many participating States, concerning the procedure for the incorporation of proposals in the Vienna Document. Other proposals for the careful further development of the Vienna Document are on the table and call for further discussion, a discussion which we should pursue energetically in the coming weeks and months.