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Statement by Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov on the Assumption of the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation by Greece

600th MEETING OF THE OSCE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION 20 January 2010

Kazakhstan warmly welcomes Greece as new Chair of the Forum for Security Co-operation and thanks Minister Alternate of Defence H.E. Mr. Panos Beglitis for introducing us the Working Programme for the first session of 2010 and for your warm wishes. Greece is assuming the responsibility for the Chairmanship of the FSC after successful Chairmanship of the OSCE and we strongly believe such a fresh experience will be very useful.

As distinguished Minister Alternate mentioned, the adoption of a number of documents in Athens serves us as a really good basis for mutual work during this year. In this regard we also wish to extend warm thanks and congratulations for the United Kingdom which has just successfully accomplished its mission.

In the Decision on Issues relevant to the Forum for Security Cooperation besides other very important topics we have a clear tasking made by our Foreign Ministers to work on the Vienna Document. Kazakhstan values recent positive signals from the participating States of awareness on the need of updating the Vienna Document the last version of which is dated 1999. We strongly believe that this work must be carried out in a targeted manner, focusing on those sections that require updating and development. We fully support the opinion of H.E. Minister Alternate that we all need to show respect to each countries position, mutual understanding and readiness for compromise. We also share the view that the strengthening the VD99 should be carried out in parallel and without detriment to the existing regime of confidence- and security-building measures.

Another important document we adopted in Athens is the Decision on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition. Kazakhstan values the great contribution made by the OSCE to the international efforts in this field. The year 2010 is marked with the 10th Anniversary of the Document on SALW, which created the framework for future cooperation between pSs. Relevant projects are an important part of our Organization's work and Kazakhstan as the CiO intends to support the OSCE activities on SALW as well as on SCA.

The third document discussed and drafted within the FSC is the Ministerial declaration on non-proliferation. My country as one of the worldwide acknowledged leaders of the universal non-proliferation process finds the added value of the OSCE activities in this field in promoting the further implementation of the UN Security Council Resolution 1540. But we also believe that the every step aimed to strengthen this regime should be a subject of discussions, and Kazakhstan is ready to make all possible efforts to make its contribution to such discussions.

Kazakhstan has nothing but to confirm its readiness to continue the practice to hold the joint meetings of the Forum and the Permanent Council. The first joint FSC-PC meeting will be held on 10 March proposed by our Greek colleagues.

The FSC's considerable experience should be applied to cross-dimensional security issues and we believe this co-operation will contribute to further strengthening the role of the FSC as an active and valuable contributor to international security. The Annual Security Review Conference in this context occupies very important place in our Programme. Kazakhstan is going to start the preparations to the 8th ASRC as soon as possible and encourages all the participating States to work actively on the FSC contribution to this Conference.

I would also like to mention the role of the FSC in contributing to the Corfu Process. It is a good sign that Greece which gave birth to the OSCE Corfu process is very well prepared to continue promoting its goals, ensure synergy as the FSC chair and member of the OSCE Troika.

Kazakhstan also stands for strengthening the role of the Security Dialogue and calls upon participating States for real contribution in this dialogue. We therefore support the plans of the next FSC Chairmanships Hungary which we also welcome as a new member of the FSC Troika and Ireland to invite the heads of the OSCE field operations to make reports on their pol-mil activities.

Kazakhstan as the OSCE Chairmanship is ready to work in close cooperation with all FSC chairmanships and looks forward to working in an effective manner during this year in order to achieve the targeted goals, including implementation of the Athens Ministerial decisions, promoting the Corfu Process and moving towards an OSCE Summit in 2010.

Thank you very much