

Intervention by amb. Nuriddin Shamsov at February 12-13, 2010 the OSCE Retreat on Athens MC Decision 1/09 on “Furthering the Corfu Process”

Session2. Economic and Environmental challenges:

Thank you Chairman,

Economic and environmental challenges are the serious risk threatening the security in the OSCE area with implication on public health, human well-being, poverty and other elements of sustainable development.

Economic and environmental challenges, in particular climate change and energy security might trigger tensions between and within states, thus, increasing the risks to the security. As a regional organization with a security focus, the OSCE has acknowledged that climate change represents a challenge. As follow-up, a more thorough analysis of the impact of climate change in the OSCE area and the actions that the OSCE can undertake is needed. In this respect, we recall that the Secretary General of the UN has been already invited the OSCE to contribute to the analysis about possible security implications of climate change as one of relevant regional organizations, in accordance with UNGA resolution on Climate change and its possible security implications.

Climate change, deterioration of environment and devastating disasters from year to year are dominating in the World, including the OSCE area, and more and more replacing the traditional challenges and risks. Furthermore, permanent climate change increases certain tension not only within certain participating-state, but could stipulate negative implication on interstate relations, threatening thus the stability and security in the whole region.

We believe that due to the aftermath of this threat and its negative implication on security in the region - first of all, because of shortage of drinking and irrigational water, desertification and wetlanding of huge territories, food shortage and massive migration, - the OSCE has to involve more actively into process and elaborate toolbox and efficient mechanisms of early warning pending possible future conflict scenarios. In this regard, it is very important the

OSCE promotion, along with other international institutes, of constructive dialogue and cooperation in the area, in particular in Central Asia.

We have to recognize the increasing role of the OSCE as one of the key regional stakeholders and in line with its mandate in addressing climate change and energy security issues in the area. The setting up of open-dialogue and promotion of regional cooperation on economic and environmental challenges should be on the top of the long-term Agenda of the Organization. Field operations of the OSCE have to support not only implementation of commitments by Governments, but provide practical assistance to host countries to address economic and environmental challenges in harmony with their prioritized national tasks.

Let us to remind that beginning from 2003 MC Decision the OSCE has been committed to promote dialogue in the field of energy security and energy resources. We extend our support to incoming Strengthening Dialogue and Cooperation on energy security in the OSCE area and on the Role of the OSCE in addressing the Security implications of Climate Change.

We believe that our joint and upcoming robust actions on economic and environmental challenges will serve the milestone in order to address the pressed ecological and energy issues in the OSCE region.

Thank you,