



DELEGATION OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN  
TO THE OSCE

PC.DEL/1012/18  
20 July 2018  
OSCE+  
ENGLISH only

Check against delivery

Statement by

Ambassador Kairat Sarybay, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna at the 1193<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in response to the Address by the State Secretary and Special Representative of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic for the Slovak 2019 OSCE Chairmanship, Mr. Lukáš Parížek  
(19 July 2018)

Thank you, Mr Chairperson,

We warmly welcome the State Secretary and Special Representative of the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic for the Slovak 2019 OSCE Chairmanship, Mr. Lukáš Parížek and thank him for outlining the priorities of the incoming Slovak Chairmanship.

We commend the intention of Slovak Chairmanship to continue its efforts on strengthening the Organization in the framework of the conflict cycle, arms control, that have already been initiated by the previous Chairmanships. We highly value that Slovakia started these activities during its Chairmanship in the Forum for Security Co-operation in the 1st Trimester of 2018.

We believe that Slovak Chairmanship will carry on to support the Structured Dialogue which we consider as one of the main elements to restore confidence and trust, both in the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian spaces of the OSCE.

We adhere to a balanced and realistic approach to conflicts resolution which is based on the fundamental principles of international law. Kazakhstan supports continuation of relevant negotiations in all formats and at all levels on situation in and around Ukraine, as well as of SMM activities. We also stand for the peaceful settlement of the conflicts in Nagorno-Karabakh, Georgia and Transnistria in a spirit of constructiveness and mutual respect in order to resolve the conflicts by diplomatic means.

Kazakhstan is concerned about the spread of transnational threats in the OSCE area and beyond. My country supports the focus of the upcoming Chair on transnational threats and countering radicalization, cyber security and security sector governance and reform.

While addressing transnational threats we highly encourage promoting of cooperation between OSCE and such international institutions as UN, CICA, SCO, CSTO, CARICC which play a significant role in the development of regional and sub-regional co-operation in this area. We are confident that special attention should be paid to the discussion of collective measures against terrorism, violent extremism, drug trafficking, weapons and human trafficking, cyberattacks, etc.

Security challenges continue to define much of the discussion surrounding Afghanistan and Central Asia. The Afghan Government's fight against violent extremism, terrorism and transnational organized crime has implications for the

entire region and for the OSCE area. Responding to such threats cannot be the responsibility of the Afghan Government alone. Therefore, we believe that the upcoming Slovak Chairmanship should be active in Afghan track as well as pay special attention to the Central Asian region. The solution of the Afghanistan problem is of particular importance for ensuring long-term stability and security for the entire OSCE region. In this regard, Kazakhstan is interested to organize next year OSCE event on Afghanistan in Astana in combination with Ambassadorial trip to Central Asia. We count on the support of current Italian Chairmanship and upcoming Slovak Chairmanship in this endeavour.

Dear Mr. State Secretary,

Ambassador Bohac has already presented the priorities of the Slovak Chairmanship in the second dimension at the Economic and environmental committee on 16 May 2018, where we expressed our full support! We believe that promoting economic progress and security in the OSCE area through energy cooperation, new technologies, good governance and connectivity in the digital era is essential. The Second preparatory meeting of the 25th OSCE Economic and environmental forum dedicated to the "Greening the economy for sustainable development, security and stability" held last year in Astana demonstrated importance of the new technologies and energy cooperation. We appreciate that incoming Chairmanship is prioritizing environmental and specifically water management issues in the second dimension.

As discussed at the OSCE Security Days on Field operations this April, we strongly believe that the mandate of any OSCE field operation must clearly define what it is mandated to do; must be kept up to date with the evolving needs and priorities of the host country and current realities; must enable the assessment of progress; and must not be designed or updated on the basis of a "one-size-fits-all" approach or a dogmatic reliance on precedents.

In this regard, we propose to create a new generation OSCE presence in Eurasia which would become the pragmatic step pointing the evolution, based on success story of the existing field operation.

We will also appreciate if the OSCE incoming Chairmanship will take note of all positive developments and dynamics in Central Asia and incorporate it into the work, projects and future activities of relevant OSCE field missions.

Last, but not least we strongly support promotion of democracy and rule of law, tolerance and non-discrimination, prevention of hate speech and hate crimes, dialoge with civil society and protection of human rights of national minorities as priorities of the Slovak Chairmanship.

In the same vein, we would like to encourage Slovakia to keep high attention on the issues of promotion of inter-cultural and inter-religious dialoge, as well as the empowerment of women and youth.

In conclusion, let me Mr. Parizek once again thank you for sharing with us your vision of the Slovak chairmanship priorities, please count on us and we wish you and your entire team every success in this endeavor.

In order to promote connectivity, this week, in my capacity of the Chair of the second committee, I have offered to organize a bicycle tour from Vienna to Bratislava in the beginning of October. And I am delighted that many members of our OSCE family have already welcomed and supported this initiative, including Secretary General Thomas Greminger. We are looking forward to bringing Vienna spirit to Bratislava already this year!

I thank you.