



DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
TO THE OSCE

Statement by
Ambassador Kairat Sarybay, the Permanent Representative of the
Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna
at the 1161st meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
in response to the address by Chairman of the Board of the Eurasian
Economic Commission H.E. Tigran Sargsyan
(19 October 2017)

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

I would like to warmly welcome H.E. Tigran Sargsyan, thank him for his substantial presentation, I would like to add several points and briefly introduce you on my country's vision of the Eurasian integration. We align ourselves with the statement delivered by Delegation of Russian Federation, in my national capacity and as a Chair of the Second committee

On 29 March 1994 at Moscow State University, President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev has initiated the idea of Eurasian integration on the basis of equality, sovereignty, mutual respect and actively contributed to its realization, which steadily transformed into the Eurasian Economic Union (EAEU).

The EAEU is an economic, not political union. It builds on the economic success of the Customs Union, and the EAEU is in line with Kazakhstan's multi-vector foreign policy and it opens vast economic opportunities for member states.

During Kazakhstan's Chairmanship to EAEU in 2016, we emphasized importance of "*Economic Diplomacy*" and the year

2016 was declared as a “year of deepening of economic cooperation with third countries and key integrational organizations” which lead to increase in cooperation with international partners including regional organizations, international organizations and third states. In brief, it was a powerful impetus to the development of international economic contacts of the Eurasian Economic Community.

Kazakhstan as an active participant of the EAEU, is interested in close cooperation with successful integration associations and technologically advanced countries. In this regard, establishing trade and economic cooperation between the EAEU and EU is especially important in the context of broadening economic opportunities to address instability in the global economy.

A practical step in this direction could be the implementation of the initiative of President Nursultan Nazarbayev to organize a conference on cooperation between EAEU and EU with participation of representatives of business community.

I should emphasize that there are all the necessary prerequisites to activate the interaction of the two integration associations, which has a strong economic potential, complementarity of economies, geographical proximity, adherence to uniform rules of trade.

Mr.Chair,

In the light of current security challenges throughout the OSCE region, the OSCE should step up its efforts to strengthen the economic and environmental dimension of security and make

best use of all available tools. In this regard, the Ministerial Council Decision on Strengthening Good Governance and Promoting Connectivity adopted last year in Hamburg has created an excellent blueprint for our future activities in the economic sphere and paved the way for an enhanced co-operation including organizations such as EAEU and opens a window of opportunities to strengthen the Economic and environmental cooperation in the OSCE area.

During the recent Supreme Eurasian Economic Council meeting in Sochi on 11 October 2017, President Nazarbayev proposed to host a EAEU meeting in 2018 focusing on the digitalisation of economy and stressed the importance of the EAEU's digital agenda. Taking into account the priorities of Austrian and incoming Italian Chairmanship in the second dimension, it shows that both organizations are on a right track and have similar issues on the agenda.

In conclusion, I would like to thank Tigran Sargsyan for his dedicated work and wish him all the success in his future activities.

I thank you.