



United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement at the Informal Ministerial Meeting in Almaty, Session 1

delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly,
July 17, 2010

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for this opportunity to comment on how we can move our security dialogue forward.

It has been a year since we launched the Corfu process, and we believe that now is the time for nations to focus on turning the ideas generated through Corfu, into practical results to make the OSCE more effective. Some of the key areas we should focus on include crisis response, military transparency, and implementing our commitments under the Human Dimension.

As you know, we are ready to join consensus for a summit in Astana this year. If we are able to reach consensus for a summit, then we all have a lot of work in front of us to produce an agenda worthy of our heads of state and government.

Regarding that agenda, we support the idea of developing an action plan for future work, such as that suggested by the EU, but we need near term results as well.

We have heard much about improving OSCE's effectiveness. The key to effectiveness resides in reaching consensus on tangible actions that address security issues of concern in all three dimensions. Implementation of commitments, not formalizing structures, is what will revitalize the European security community.

The OSCE has the tools, experience, and commitments – the capacity – to help prevent and deal with inter-ethnic strife in Kyrgyzstan – a few kilometers from where we are. Given the urgency of the situation, the OSCE should deploy a police advisory group as soon as humanly possible.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.