

Concluding Remarks
of the Delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan
15th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
May 21-23, 2007
Prague

ENGLISH only

Mr. Moderator,

The topics we discussed during this Forum were indeed very important and Azerbaijan attaches great importance to it. We supported the themes and discussions related to them, and we will closely follow-up the activities afterwards.

It was also interesting to see the interest by the OSCE to the environmental challenges of the Caspian basin countries and we listened with great interest to the presentation by the respective countries. Let me also inform the distinguished delegates that today, there will be launching of the conference on the Caspian Sea framework convention, to gather all littoral states in Baku, which is to be dedicated to the environmental problems of the Caspian Sea. We believe it is most appropriate to discuss relevant problems amongst the littoral states.

I would also like to draw attention to different topics discussed during the Forum, in particular the discussions on the Transboundary Cooperation in Water issues. What is necessary to note here is that, we shall not forget of existing conflicts in the OSCE area, in particular in the South Caucasus, where instead of boundaries there are front lines. Thus, for promoting the transboundary cooperation, we shall first settle protracted conflicts, eliminate their consequences such as occupation of territories etc. and then to embark on cooperation.

In conclusion, on behalf of the Azerbaijani delegation, I would like to thank the Government of the Czech Republic for the hospitality and excellent organization and to the Spanish Chairmanship for their efforts in making this event a success.

Thank you.