

STATEMENT

**by H.E. Usen Suleimen, Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Kazakhstan at the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting
Working session 17: Discussion of human dimension activities
Warsaw, 4 October 2012**

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The delegation of Kazakhstan would like to thank the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights for initiating this very helpful discussion on the activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in relevant OSCE decisions and other documents.

Kazakhstan highly values the OSCE field operation in Astana and its assistance rendered to the country in implementing its commitments as well as in building its capacity and expertise in all three dimensions. In general, we evaluate positively the Centre's programmatic activities in all three dimensions.

In the human dimension we highly value the assistance of the Centre in promoting rule of law and legal reforms. We are particularly glad to note that OSCE Centre successfully implemented a number of projects on combating trafficking in human beings and recently has launched new series of regional training seminars for staff at orphanages and vocational schools as well as series of regional training seminars to improve the identification of trafficking victims.

Thus I would like to note that the quality of performance of the Centre has been enhanced. Notwithstanding there is still quite a substantial room for improvement. With this I would like to outline some points on the subject.

We would like to see better distribution of scope of activities in between the three dimensions. In human dimension, we would like to see projects aimed at promoting human rights of vulnerable groups, including women, youth and people with disabilities; improving professional skills and knowledge of journalists, including Kazakh-language journalists on legal and ethical standards of their profession including self-regulation; capacity-building of the Ombudsman office; training of judges, prosecutors and officers of detention facilities.

A mandate of any field mission guides their activities in a host-country and should not be exceeded unless it is done under request of a host-country. Thus instead of devoting larger part of reports to analyses and evaluations of internal political situation of the country or its foreign policy (which is already quite well-known thanks to large presence of diplomatic missions in Astana), the reports of the Centre should be focused purely on the Centre's activities, the effectiveness of the implemented projects and their added value.

And last but not least, all projects planned to carry out have to be consulted well in advance of their presentation/implementation with governmental bodies of Kazakhstan, including Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a coordinator of cooperation with international organizations on the national level.

Thank you for attention.