



<p style="text-align: center;"><b>First Annual Security Review Conference</b> <b>Working Group D "Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management"</b></p>
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Mr. Chairman, Colleagues

Thank you to Mr. Henricsson for a vivid/colourful presentation and to Amb. Ferraris for

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I think an important lesson we can draw from our keynote speakers is the following.

- The OSCE has to be aware of the specific contribution/added value that it can add to the complex network of activities which we subsume under conflict management and crisis prevention. Mr. Henricsson is perfectly right in pointing to the necessities of different incentives and sticks which the International Community has to bring into play when it wants to restore stability and peaceful development in areas where conflicts are latent or manifest. As the Istanbul platform for security put it: all organisations can make different contributions and should establish their particular competencies and instruments. OSCE is not an organisation with big sticks and, as a rule, should focus on the civilian and long-term aspects of actual or potential conflicts. Within the OSCE framework we have established a precious consensus on arms control issues which constitutes a cornerstone of security for the whole OSCE area. One might even say that this acquis is a cornerstone of OSCE itself.
- If OSCE wants to play the role assigned to it by the Istanbul Platform, it has to strengthen its particular instruments, as embodied in the Institutions and the Field Activities. Addressing the root causes of conflicts implies a very close and in-depth approach based on thorough knowledge of problems and persons. It needs a permanent dialogue with governments involved and the actors in the fields on all levels of the community. We consider the Field Activities to be a prime asset of the OSCE. They are the right response to the individual and real problems on the ground. We should try to find out the necessary ways and means to make them as effective and helpful as possible. Field activities are an instrument of cooperation and should foster the development towards rule of law, good governance and democracy. What our field activities need is an improved dialogue on the specific contribution which we and the countries concerned expect them to make. The inclusion, where appropriate, also of elements reducing risks from SALW and fostering democratic control of the security sector should be seriously considered. Field activities do not reflect a dividing line between east and west of Vienna, rather they embody the joint effort to overcome old dividing lines.

- OSCE's particular strength is the comprehensive approach towards cross-cutting security issues. No other institution has the same experience in addressing the complex interplay of political and military, economic and human dimension aspects. This asset should notably be put to use in focussing on issues of civil security. Here we see an real need where the OSCE has developed expertise and can be supportive to quite a few participating states. The new focus on issues of police-related matters has proven to be a success story. We think it should be complemented by a parallel focus on issues of border security issues. We therefore would like to draw attention to our proposal to create a BSU within the Secretariat.

### **Civil Security is and should remain a new focus of OSCE**

Looking back, it is no accident that OSCE has developed a strong focus on civil security: on rule of law, media, administration, police and judicial training, democratic political processes. OSCE started with creating a common space of politico-military treaties and commitments and put it in the larger context of comprehensive security. This general approach still holds true. The focus has shifted in all dimensions from security risks between states to risks deriving from regional and internal structures of our countries. By developing its expertise in police related activities, we have made a decisive and very successful step. We look forward to further contributions of Richard Monk and his Strategic Police Matters Unit. We think also that matters of civilian **Border Security and Management** are matters of the same strategic importance that should be dealt with the same amount of energy and resources. Let me repeat therefore our proposal to create a specific **Border Security and Management Unit (BSMU)** within the Secretariat.

Thank you.

**Concrete proposals:**

- **Establishing a Border Security and Management Unit (BSMU)**
- **strengthening the ATU**
- **strengthening the SPMU**

Cofer Black has touched on the question of border security. My Government proposes to significantly broaden the expertise of the Conflict Prevention Centre in this field through the establishment of a **Border Security and Management Unit (BSMU)**. It should operate under direct supervision of the head of the CPC. The tasks of such a unit are manifold. Let me just mention the most urgent ones:

- **Trafficking**: the 11th Economic forum has proved that increased efforts in border security and border management are essential in fighting trafficking in its various manifestations.
- **Ohrd implementation**: the Ohrd conference on Border security and border management has tasked the OSCE with ambitious work which it will have to carry out hand-in-hand with NATO and the EU.
- **Requests for assistance**: a number of participating states have explicitly requested assistance in their efforts to reform border forces effectively by implementing modern integrated border management and policing standards.

We thank the US-Government for having made Brian Woo available to the OSCE. He will give the ATU the impetus needed for the challenging tasks ahead. Richard Monk and his Strategic Police Matters Unit deserve our support and we fully endorse the Unit's ambitious project in Kirgistan. The creation of a Border Security and Management Unit and the ATU and SPMU will continue to receive my government's full support during the 2004 programme outline and budgeting process. We call on our partners to join in this effort. In doing so, we will not fail to contribute significantly to the revival of the OSCE as a security organisation that adapts itself to the challenges of our time.

Thank you.