



HUNGARY

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Statement by Mr. Zsolt Németh
Minister of State, MFA of Hungary
at the 19th Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council
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Chairperson, Colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen

At the outset let me express my gratitude to Ireland for its generous hospitality in this lovely capital, Dublin.

I warmly welcome Bold Luvsanvandan, the Foreign Minister of Mongolia among us. Mongolia's membership in the organisation allows for further enhancing the traditionally friendly ties between Hungary and Mongolia.

Mr. Chairperson,

The world in which we live is continuously changing at a high pace and new security risks appear on the horizon. **But one thing remains constant** since 1975, the start of the Helsinki Process: **our collective need and strive for security. This is why we have to work hard to make the OSCE more efficient, more pro-active, and more credible.**

The „Helsinki+40” process should provide a co-ordinated strategic approach that can strengthen the OSCE and guide us over the next three years towards the common objective of building a security community defined by the Astana Commemorative Declaration, as meaningful as the historic changes were in Central and Eastern Europe 20 years ago.

One of the security risks in our region comes from unresolved conflicts, we all know them, Georgia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Transnistria. Negotiations, compromise and reconciliation, fully respecting the principles of international law and above all political will are cornerstones of the peaceful settlement of protracted conflicts in the OSCE area. It would contribute to the regional stability and improve the daily lives of communities concerned.

We should also improve our common efforts when addressing **transnational threats** especially emerging challenges, such as **cyber security**. Hungary, being the birthplace of the European Convention on Cybercrime and the host, after London, of the second international conference on cyberspace in October 2012, attaches particular importance that the discussion on confidence-building measures in this field continue in the future.

An effective **arms control** regime, including disarmament and confidence- and security building remain essential elements of the Euro-Atlantic security architecture. Hungary looks forward to the revitalization of negotiations to overcome the decade long impasse and restore the viability of the **conventional arms control regime in Europe**. An important contribution should be the substantial update of the Vienna Document, *inter alia* to increase military transparency.

Mr. Chairperson,

Furthermore, we still see the questioning, even the violations of **rights of traditional national minorities within the OSCE region**. Therefore we attach particular importance to the successful work of **the High Commissioner on National Minorities** whose office will celebrate its 20th anniversary in 2013. In our view the approach, which is also present in many European countries, based on respect of and co-operation with the minority communities' autonomous structures, bodies and mechanisms is a successful model to be followed. We also firmly believe that **the mother-tongue based education** is one of the most important instruments to preserve the identity of historical national minorities, and thus **a tool to ensure stability for the society at large**.

We attach also great importance to combat **racism and discrimination**. A particular group throughout the OSCE area facing day-by-day manifestations of intolerance and discrimination are **the Roma**. In Hungary we just started the implementation of the newly adopted National Social Inclusion Strategy and we have introduced measures aimed at promoting access of Roma to quality education.

Education is a key element in **the fight against anti-Semitism**, too. We will strive to work together with ODIHR on developing specific teaching materials designed to better facilitate overcoming prejudices already at an early age through better understanding common history, culture and traditions. The Hungarian sponsored project **2012 Raoul Wallenberg Year** serves the purpose of bringing the figure of this 20th century hero, a shining rescuer of victims of Holocaust closer to the young generations as a role model for human rights activist.

Last but not least one of the most important tools of the OSCE is its comprehensive **network of field missions**. They need to be adapted to the changing security environment, to the political situation of the host country and also to the limited resources at our disposal. We see a specific task for the missions located in neighbouring regions to Afghanistan; they should continue to contribute to our international efforts to stabilize the situation in and around Afghanistan, especially after 2014.

Mr. Chairman,

I am confident that by adopting the draft decisions in front of us the incoming Ukrainian Chairmanship will be equipped with the necessary guiding principles and concrete targets for bringing us closer to the strategic objective of a security community. We look forward to working with our neighbour and friend and wish Ukraine much success when conducting the OSCE.