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**Statement of the Secretary General of the Collective Security
Treaty Organization**

Mr.Nikolay BORDYUZHA

15-th Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council

Madrid, 29 November 2007

**Statement of the Secretary General of the Collective Security Treaty
Organization
Mr.Nikolay BORDYUZHA
at the 15-th Meeting of the OSCE Ministerial Council**

First of all I would like to express our gratitude to the OSCE Chairman-in-Office, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Spain Mr. Miguel Ángel Moratinos for the kind invitation to take part in the 15-th Meeting of the Ministerial Council.

The CSTO member states consider the OSCE as an important partner in promoting regional security.

Lately our organizations have come to a new, higher level of interaction which characterizes with trust, openness and practical ideas on cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

One of them is fighting illicit drug trafficking from Afghanistan. This problem is a matter of particular concern of the CSTO members. It is depicted in detail in a Statement of the CSTO member-states distributed in the OSCE. We are in favor of wider cooperation of international and regional organizations in this area. We positively evaluate the OSCE's contribution to the training of Afghan police officers in combating drugs in the Institute of Ministry of the Interior of Russian Federation in Domodedovo which has the status of basic training institute of the CSTO. In our opinion it would be expedient to continue this project on a permanent basis, inclusively with financial support of the OSCE. We also consider that it will be useful to train within this project not only Afghan citizens but also citizens of states located on so called «nothern route» of drug trafficking from Afghanistan.

We consider important to put in practice the idea of convening in 2008 a conference on international cooperation to combat illicit trafficking in drugs and

chemical precursors with the participation of OSCE and relevant international and regional organizations.

We positively evaluate the readiness of the OSCE to render practical assistance to the states of Central Asia in matters of border control, training of police officers and personnel of other law enforcement agencies. It is important to make this cooperation practical so that it would meet the real needs of the states of this region.

Another perspective field of cooperation is conflict prevention. We are ready to hold consultations of experts on this matter with representatives of Conflict Prevention Centre of the OSCE.

We are satisfied with growing cooperation between the CSTO and OSCE's Action against terrorism unit.

We positively evaluate contacts with the Secretary General of the OSCE Mr. Brichambaut which took place during the session of the CSTO's Council of Collective Security in Dushanbe.

We consider that political future of the OSCE, its ability to play an important role in current system of European, Euroatlantic and Euroasian security to a large extent will depend upon the effectiveness of the reforms and the quality of the decisions of this Ministerial Council meeting in Madrid.

On their part the CSTO member-states made a number of concrete proposals. CSTO's draft decisions on Combatting the threat of illicit trafficking in drugs and precursors, on working out of the Charter of the OSCE, on ODIHR Observation of National Elections are directed at improvement of the effectiveness of the OSCE's activities. Approval of these documents would become a step on the way of transforming the OSCE into a full-fledged international organization, filling its agenda with issues of providing joint response to new threats and challenges, improving monitoring mechanisms in the interests of all the participants.

We reiterate our support of electing the Republic of Kazakhstan as a chairman of the OSCE in 2009. We are sure that such decision will give a new impetus to the development of the Organization and contribute to the realization of the principles of equality of all its participants and of geographical balance in OSCE's governing structures.

We are in favor of increasing the role of the OSCE's Forum for Security Cooperation and call to intensify efforts of the Organization in political and military dimension.

We expect that decisions adopted at the 15-th OSCE Ministerial Meeting will give positive dynamics to this Organization, which will help to raise the effectiveness of this unique forum of dialogue and an instrument of securing stability in Europe and in the whole world.

On its part the Collective Security Treaty Organization is ready for fruitful cooperation with the OSCE and its structures in all matters that are within our competence.