UNited nations security council
open debate

Implementation of the United Nations
Security Council Resolutions

New York
23 February 2007

Statement

On behalf of the member states of
the Collective Security Treaty Organisation
(Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan,
The Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan)

Andrei Dapkiunas
Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Belarus
to the United Nations
I have the honour to make a statement on behalf of the Member States of the Collective Security Treaty Organisation – Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan.

We thank the Slovak Presidency for holding an open meeting of the Security Council on implementation of the resolutions 1540 (2004) and 1673 (2006). We are confident that this debate will contribute to the improvement of information exchange between countries and international organisations as well as give a new impetus to cooperation in providing assistance to facilitate the implementation of the resolutions of the Council. Openness of the Security Council and its responsiveness to the opinions of the Member-States and international organisations will contribute to the more effective and results-oriented implementation of measures taken by the Council in the field of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Success of collective efforts is directly related to the effectiveness of action at the national level. Such non-proliferation measures as physical protection of sensitive materials and border control are regarded by states as important means of ensuring their own security.

We regard the international export control regimes as useful. The strategy of further improvement of national export control systems is elaborated within the framework of these regimes. It is clear that much remains to be done to make these mechanisms clear and transparent for the whole of international community. The better understanding of how and why certain goods get into control lists may help some countries to deal with their concerns about “discriminatory trade barriers” allegedly created by these regimes.

Regional organisations which operate on the basis of common interests, trust and cooperation may play their positive role in eliminating the concerns about the discriminatory nature of measures used by the international regimes.

Regional organisations can offer practical assistance to states in elaborating the effective national non-proliferation policy, including implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions. This cooperation may take place in the form of information exchange, consulting, elaboration of general principles of non-proliferation policy, joint practical action, starting from elaboration of legal norms to the monitoring of their implementation. A large number of regional events, including those held in collaboration with the 1540 Committee, testifies to the interest of states in cooperation within regional organisations on non-proliferation issues. One of such events held recently in the CSTO area was a regional workshop for the states of Central Asia and the Caucasus on implementation of the resolution 1540 (2004). It was organised by the Monterey Institute and the Government of Kazakhstan in Almaty in October 2006.
The CSTO Member States cooperate on non-proliferation issues in different formats: bilateral, within economic integration unions, OSCE, IAEA, OPCW, BTWC and others. Four Central Asian CSTO Member States are parties to the Treaty on the Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zone in Central Asia. This treaty is an important practical contribution to the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime. It also contributes to the implementation of the IAEA safeguards regime and control of nuclear materials. Membership of states in various regional and international organisations is an important factor of effective coordination and results-oriented nature of their non-proliferation efforts.

Economic integration unions play an important role in harmonisation of export control legislation. Six out of seven CSTO members are engaged in this work within the framework of the Eurasian Economic Community. Standardised export control lists have already been drawn up. The process of making national legislation uniform is currently underway.

CSTO defines its role in non-proliferation of the weapons of mass destruction in the region being mindful of the military and political nature of its activity. Basic directions of practical cooperation approved within CSTO include such elements as creation of the mechanism of regular consultations, joint assessment of the degree of threat of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, study of vulnerability of sea, air and land shipments, contact-building to ensure smooth interaction between the competent agencies of the CSTO Member States.

The CSTO Member States believe that new forms of cooperation to ensure non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction should complement and strengthen the methods of work already utilised by the international community within the framework of current non-proliferation regimes and international institutions. These new forms of cooperation should not be an obstacle for international economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation conducted in accordance with the norms of international law.

The CSTO Member States are principled and committed advocates of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, their components and means of delivery. Countering new threats and challenges to the national, regional and international security, including international terrorism, will continue to be a staple of CSTO activity.