



United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on the 3rd Preparatory Seminar in Bishkek

As delivered by Charge d'Affaires Douglas Davidson
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
May 20, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, and thank you Mr. Swiecicki for your thorough report.

By all accounts, the Third Preparatory Seminar in Bishkek was a very good one, adding useful substance to its predecessors in Yerevan and Dublin. A special thanks goes to the organizers and to the Kyrgyz hosts for their considerable efforts to make the meeting a success.

We now look forward to the Economic Forum in Prague. There we hope to build on the work of the preparatory seminars and to develop concrete, actionable plans by means of which the OSCE can play a useful role in building up institutional and human capacity so that all countries can maximize the advantages, and minimize any unintended side effects of the new global economy.

In this context, I would like to second the remarks made by the Representative of the European Union that good governance underpins a country's ability to take full advantage of economic integration and globalization.

Determined and thorough implementation of the principles outlined in the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension should be our central aim, as these measures will help reduce economic disparities within and among our countries and help us all make the most of the opportunities that the global economy is creating.

Thank you very much.