



United States Mission to the OSCE

Response to Address by Deputy Head of State Border Service of Ukraine

As delivered by Deputy Representative Douglas Davidson
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
May 13, 2004

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I should like to join others who've spoken before me today in welcoming Mr. Melnikov to the Permanent Council. We appreciate his overview of Ukraine's border management practices.

The United States would like to commend the State Border Service for its strong commitment to border controls, especially in the areas of export control and non-proliferation.

Border Management issues are a growing concern to the United States and to the OSCE. We look forward to the opportunity for a more detailed exchange at tomorrow's session of the Informal Working Group on Border Management.

We also welcome Ukraine's support for the OSCE to play a role in the strengthening of border management on the Ukraine-Moldova border. We encourage close coordination on this issue among the relevant authorities, the OSCE Project Coordinator's Office in Ukraine and the OSCE Mission in Moldova.

We greatly appreciate Mr. Melnikov's close cooperation with our own officials at the U.S. Embassy in Kiev as well, and we wish him continued success in his work.

Thank you very much.