

**Welcoming address by Deputy Minister
of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation
Sergey A. Ryabkov
to the participants of the OSCE Forum
for Security Co-operation (FSC)**

In conjunction with the beginning of Russian Chairmanship of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation I heartily welcome its participants.

Throughout a quarter of a century since the Forum's creation this decision-making body has proved itself to be a platform for dialogue and development of solutions for politico-military issues of Europe on security, unique in terms of its composition. The documents adopted within its framework or on its initiative have promoted building confidence and co-operation among the OSCE participating States.

In all these years the Russian Federation has been committed to joint work within the framework of the Forum for implementation of the principle of indivisible security.

I am convinced that is strictly following the consensus rule that ensures dialogue based on equality of rights and mutual respect is the key to FSC's success. During its Chairmanship in the FSC Russia intends to pursue balanced and positive approach, to seek consent based on mutual advantage.

I expect that the Forum will provide substantial contribution to restoration of confidence and improvement of politico-military situation in the OSCE area.

I wish you all fruitful work.

S.Ryabkov