

## Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe The Representative on Freedom of the Media Freimut Duve

5 June 2003

## **Written Statement under Current Issues**

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The report concerning the case of Mr. Sergey Duvanov, prepared by the two Dutch legal experts on the initiative of the Chairmanship, as well as the Kazakh comments to the report have been distributed to all delegations this week. I have raised the case of Mr. Duvanov on several occasions before you in this forum, both related to this trial in particular as well as to the physical and legal harassment Mr. Duvanov has experienced in the past. It has always been my serious concern that Mr. Duvanov has been targeted because of his journalistic activity in Kazakhstan, especially his endeavours to report on corruption.

The report at hand outlines a number of investigative problems and procedural violations related to the case of Mr. Duvanov. We urge the Kazakh authorities to take appropriate action as a result of this report together with the OSCE Chairman-in-Office and the relevant OSCE institutions.

Thank you.