



## United States Mission to the OSCE

### Statement on OSCE Budget Conciliation

As delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
February 17, 2011

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We welcome the decision taken today on the 2010 Unified Budget reconciliation. We are pleased to note the reduction in the estimated expenditure for 2010, and that key programs, such as the increase in ODIHR's election observation activity, could be funded primarily through adjustments to other Secretariat and Institutions funds.

We also welcome the initiative of the Secretariat to provide a report on the true fund utilization rate for each Mission/Institution as of the end of 2010.

Mr. Chairman, my delegation has consistently called for greater transparency of the finances of the Organization. Only by receiving an accurate accounting of programs and funds can we, the participating States, gauge the success, and failure, of mandates we give the Organization. As noted in our response to the passage of the 2011 Unified Budget in December, "we must ensure that the resources we contribute are used in a practical manner." We continue to believe that the Missions should be carefully scrutinized in light of the situation on the ground today and the challenges in the future. We want each Mission to make sure it is addressing current needs and adapting to changing environments so the OSCE may best allocate its limited funds, especially in these times of fiscal constraint.

We look forward to the Program Budget Performance Review process in March, to evaluate how well the Organization met its objectives and outcomes, and to the Program Outline process to make substantive changes to ensure the OSCE continues to be relevant, effective, efficient and flexible as an organization.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.