

**Remarks of Executive Director Ambassador K. Sarybay
at CICA Seminar on Development of Military-Political dimension
(13-14 July 2022, Nur-Sultan)**

Distinguished General Alchekenov,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen!

It is my great honor and pleasure to greet participants of the Seminar on Military Political dimension traditionally organized by the Republic of Kazakhstan.

In this context, I would like to express my gratitude to the Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan for organizing today's seminar, and 15 Member States - for actively participating in it. Moreover, it is the first offline event in this dimension, after pandemics, and I hope it will bring our work plans back to the pre-COVID patterns, and even enhance them.

I also take this opportunity to acknowledge the presence of the distinguished delegates who arrived from respective capitals to exchange views and discuss the prospects of further development of cooperation among Member States in the CICA's Military-Political dimension.

This dimension is one of the five main areas of cooperation within the CICA. Although the Member States did not yet approve comprehensive cooperation and confidence building measures in this particular domain, CICA Member States definitely have to deal with problems related to security, conflict prevention, de-escalation, settlement or arms control and others, individually, bilaterally or sub-regionally. To do it within the CICA will require certain number of steps before achieving the consensus among Member States. I strongly believe that upcoming CICA Summit that will be held this October, in Nur-Sultan, is a step in the right direction as it will

discuss the issue of CICA transformation into a full-fledged international organization.

Furthermore, the Member States have already developed ten specific confidence building measures under Military-Political dimension in CICA Catalogue of Confidence-Building Measures, reflecting the collective views and multilateral cooperative approaches to ensure long-term stability on the Asian continent, recognize that confidence building measures, which are important in strengthening security in Asia. They are implemented on a step-by-step and voluntary basis, taking this into account, the Senior Official Committee decided to start implementation of four out of ten measures of military-political dimension by its decision of 28 June 2013.

The Policy Paper on implementation of CBMs in Military-Political dimension has been incorporated into the Updated Catalogue of CBMs adopted by CICA Foreign Ministers last year.

Distinguished delegates,

CICA Member States aspire as their ultimate goal to create an architecture of security and cooperation in Asia based on the principles of international law, transparency and mutual confidence; and Military-Political dimension has the pivotal role in realizing this common aspiration of CICA leaders.

I strongly believe that today's seminar will serve as a platform to exchange forward looking views in order to further widening the cooperation in this dimension.

I once again extend my sincere gratitude to the organizers of seminars, and wish a productive work.

I thank you!