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EUROPEAN UNION

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 932
Vienna, 22 November 2012**

EU statement on Mongolia's accession to the OSCE

The European Union would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the statement by the spokesperson of EU High Representative Catherine Ashton on Mongolia's accession to the OSCE:

"The High Representative welcomes the decision of the OSCE Ministerial Council on Mongolia's accession to the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe. It is recognition that we share the same values – democracy, respect for human rights and rule of law, and strongly believe in multilateral co-operation and a comprehensive approach to overcoming our security challenges.

It is also proof of growing Mongolian political engagement and integration with international organisations and institutions. The EU is looking forward to co-operating with Mongolia in the OSCE. "

In addition to this statement, we take this opportunity to congratulate Mongolia and express satisfaction that the efforts of the Lithuanian and the Irish Chairs, strongly supported by the EU, have rendered this important development possible.

The Acceding Country Croatia*, the Candidate Countries, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland+ and Serbia*, the Countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia, Georgia, Andorra and San Marino, align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.