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PERMANENT MISSION OF TURKEY

REMARKS BY THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF TURKEY AMBASSADOR ÖMÜR ORHUN AT THE REINFORCED PERMANENT COUNCIL

(Vienna, 1 July 2004)

Having aligned my Delegation with the EU Statement, I would like to add the following brief points on a national basis.

First of all, I also welcome this opportunity to review and take stock of OSCE activities exactly at the mid-term of the Bulgarian Chairmanship and to look to the preparations for the Sofia Ministerial. The reports on both counts by the Chairmanship was comprehensive and we thank for this.

As far as implementation of the Maastricht tasks are concerned, my Delegation is of the opinion that we are on the right track. The same can be said for the preparations for the Sofia Ministerial, as the EU Statement also underlined. In that respect, my Delegation is in agreement with the Bulgarian Chairmanship on continuity and implementation. On the other hand, for repositioning our organization in view of the dynamic and evolving security environment in the OSCE geography, it is our conviction that we have to do more collectively. We have to continue to review our role on a regular basis, we have to re-evaluate our potential and put this potential into good use.

In this exercise, as I underlined also at last year's RPC, there is no "one size fits all" formula for all issues before us. Being modest and realistic, OSCE can contribute more fully to solution of existing problems or to prevention of potential ones.

Another point my Delegation is never tired to emphasize is the need for thematic and geographical balance. We have to strike a fair and right balance in our endeavours. In the same vain, the necessity for full transparency and inclusiveness also merits mentioning. We also continue to firmly believe in the merits of the consensus rule.

On the other hand, as my Delegation repeatedly stated, I would like to once more underline our conviction on the necessity of putting into full use our existing mechanisms and tool-kit, instead of attempting to create new mechanisms or institutions. Since our views on this issue are well known, I will not elaborate further.

Finally, let me join the remarks of my UK colleague on the Adapted CFE Treaty.