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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXEY BORODAVKIN,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

10 January 2008

**In response to the statements by the United States of America
and the European Union**

Mr. Chairman,

I have no choice but to again take the floor since the statements delivered by the United States of America and the European Union contained complaints against the Russian Federation having to do with the suspension of its participation in the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty). I want to express my regret at the fact that yet again an attempt has been made to place on Russia the responsibility for “undermining the arms control system in Europe”.

Actually, the situation is entirely the reverse. It is the NATO member States that have in fact imposed a moratorium on the ratification of the adapted CFE Treaty, which they themselves signed in 1999, and that have in so doing brought to a halt the process of arms control and disarmament in Europe.

If our partners are genuinely concerned about preserving politico-military security and stability on the continent, they need only ratify the adapted CFE Treaty, discarding artificial conditions and illegitimate complaints against Russia. Let me recall that Russia has long since ratified the adapted CFE Treaty and looks towards the other States that have signed this Treaty to also take the same step.

Thank you for your attention.