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United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement in Response to Secretary General of GUAM Valeri Chechelashvili

As for delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
May 30, 2013

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

The United States welcomes you to the Permanent Council, Secretary General Valeri Chechelashvili, and we thank you for your presentation today.

The United States is a strong supporter of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development – GUAM, and the valuable work of the organization in promoting deeper economic links among the participating states of Georgia, Ukraine, Azerbaijan, and Moldova. The United States welcomes GUAM's efforts to increase stability, prosperity, and deepen integration in the Black Sea – Caspian Sea region and applauds its initiatives to establish a transport corridor, to fight cross border and organized crime and to combat threats to cyber security. We also attach great importance to the Organization's cooperation with the OSCE, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development. We wish you and your organization much success.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.