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**STATEMENT BY HER EXCELLENCY AURELIA FRICK,
FOREIGN MINISTER OF LIECHTENSTEIN AT THE NINETEENTH
MEETING OF THE OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Dublin, 6 and 7 December 2012

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I should like first of all to thank the Irish Chairmanship for its warm hospitality and the perfect preparation of the 19th OSCE Ministerial Council meeting.

Liechtenstein would like to welcome Mongolia as the 57th participating State in the OSCE family. We are convinced that Mongolia will strengthen regional co-operation in Central Asia and make a contribution to the revitalization of the OSCE.

Mr. Chairperson,

Ireland set clear priorities for its Chairmanship in the areas of conflict settlement, good governance, fundamental freedoms and tolerance and in doing so contributed a good deal from its own experience. The proposals are well chosen with balanced content and could represent genuine added value.

There has been successful work this year in the area of good governance, to which Liechtenstein also contributed its expertise. We regard the document before us as substantive and comprehensive. It defines important standards for the OSCE region in the areas of corruption, money-laundering and the financing of terrorism. It is useful that these standards are aimed at participating States, the private economy and civil society alike.

Mr. Chairperson,

We are in a stage of transition. The consequences of the political upheavals of the last 20 years and their effect on international co-operation are being evaluated and reassessed by States. Security policy requirements have changed. The financial and economic crisis presents States with new challenges. Tolerance, religious freedom and the complex questions of integration are further new tasks for our countries.

In this uncertain environment, the OSCE is at present managing only partially to play an effective role in ensuring security and stability in the OSCE area and in serving as a forum for dialogue.

It now therefore important above all for the OSCE to reposition itself on the basis of its existing *acquis*. The Heads of State or Government laid the foundations for this two years ago in Astana. The Helsinki+40 process offers us a roadmap for the next three years.

Mr. Chairperson,

Liechtenstein is not a member of any security alliance. For that reason the OSCE, as the world's largest regional security organization, remains of undiminished importance for us. It is against this background, amongst other things, that the Government of Liechtenstein decided to accept the chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) at the start of the coming year.

Confidence- and security-building measures and conventional arms control are rightly referred to as the crown jewels of the OSCE and regarded as the central component of a security community. Even in this traditionally successful area of the OSCE little progress has been made recently – despite the presence of a series of proposals for modernizing the existing instruments. Liechtenstein has set itself the objective during its chairmanship of the FSC of continuing and fostering the dialogue on the Vienna Document, arms control and current security issues.

Mr. Chairperson,

As the Foreign Minister of Liechtenstein, I have always considered it important to advocate the concerns and protection of women. In this context I support the OSCE's efforts to implement United Nations Security Council resolution 1325. I also hope that we will be able to contribute our expertise to the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women in the period from 2015 to 2019.

In conclusion, I should like to wish Ukraine luck and success during its Chairmanship in the coming year.

Thank you.