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**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MAXIME LEFEBVRE,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE OSCE,  
AT THE 1040th (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

17 February 2015

**On the terrorist attacks in Copenhagen**

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to the statement by the European Union with which I align myself, allow me to add a few words in a national capacity.

Denmark, a European country and friend, has been the victim of attacks against freedom of expression and of an anti-Semitic nature. As you know, the French Ambassador, Mr. François Zimeray, was present during the attack on the Krudttønden cultural centre and could have been among the victims.

The day after this attack, the French Head of State visited the Danish embassy in France to meet with the ambassador. President Hollande stressed the links between the attacks that occurred in Paris five weeks ago and the two shootings in Copenhagen.

Our Minister of the Interior, Mr. Bernard Cazeneuve, travelled to Copenhagen on Sunday, 15 February 2015 to honour the victims. He went there at François Hollande's request to demonstrate France's solidarity with the Danish Government and people.

On Monday, 16 February, the Prime Minister, Mr. Manuel Valls, called for France to unite against "Islamofascism".

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.