

## Spanish Presidency of the European Union

OSCE Permanent Council No. 811  
Vienna, 27<sup>th</sup> May 2010

### EU statement in response to the Secretary General's presentation of the 2011 Programme Outline

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The EU would like to thank the Secretary General for the preparation and submission of the OSCE's 2011 Programme Outline, as well as all of those who worked hard in the elaboration of this important document.

The EU's main message in relation with the conception of the Organization's activities for the next year is twofold. It is a message of continuity, as the EU's priorities are to a large extent the same ones as last year, and it seems to us that many of the activities that are being carried out this year will very much remain relevant in 2011. But it is also a message of evolution: the Corfu Process is exploring ways in which the OSCE can improve its relevance and effectiveness, and better identify its key strengths and priorities, which is also what our Programme Outline should be aiming at.

The EU's own key priorities within the Corfu Process are already well-known. Our overall goal is to progress towards an OSCE +, as opposed to an OSCE *à la carte*.

This means, firstly, the reaffirmation of our OSCE common commitments and, thus, the Organization's activities should have a strong focus on providing effective assistance to participating States in the implementation of their OSCE commitments in all three dimensions, including those pertaining to the human dimension, especially with regard to fundamental freedoms and electoral processes.

We also believe it is necessary to strengthen the Organization's effectiveness in addressing the whole conflict cycle (prevention, early warning, crisis management, and post-conflict rehabilitation). We have a special interest in promoting the resolution of the existing protracted conflicts, including through restoration of a significant OSCE presence throughout Georgia. These challenges necessitate an ongoing review, reinvigoration and reinforcement of the Organization's toolbox of CSBMs, across all three dimensions.

Transnational threats, including terrorism, cyber crime, Weapons of Mass Destruction proliferation, trafficking in human beings, small arms and light weapons, and illicit drugs, are also high on our agenda, and they will probably be so for the years to come. We would welcome a more strategic vision on these issues, as suggested in the thematic overview of the Programme Outline, and look forward to the Secretary General's report on how the Organization can more effectively tackle these threats. But we

need to ensure that the OSCE's engagement on these issues complements the activities of other international actors and does not dilute the OSCE's focus on the core 'acquis' where it can add most value.

We continue to support the enhancement and streamlining of the economic and environmental dimension: we believe the OSCE should increase its capacities and its strategic vision with regard to at least two very topical economic and environmental issues: energy security and the security implications of climate change.

Mr. Chairman,

The EU has supported for many years the OSCE Institutions. We continue to believe it is necessary for ODIHR, for the High Commissioner on National Minorities, and for the Representative for the Freedom of the Media, not only to enjoy their indispensable autonomy, but to have the necessary resources to continue performing their roles.

The EU has for many years supported, politically and financially, the presence of the OSCE in South-Eastern Europe. While there continue to be some security and other challenges, there has been progress in many areas, and specific efficiencies will be welcome where there has been progress towards the full implementation of Missions mandates.

The challenges in Eastern Europe may appear to be less visible but are no less in need of attention. The weakness of democratic institutions throughout the region necessitates continuing

engagement, and a successful resolution of the protracted conflict in Transnistria requires additional resources to promote CSBMs in the social, political and economic life of the region.

The EU will welcome an increased attention to the Caucasus. The challenges we face in this region are still quite considerable, and require the constructive engagement of neighboring States and the continuing support provided by our field operations in this region, including with regard to the Conflict dealt with by the Minsk Group.

Last, but not least, the EU will continue to support an increased OSCE involvement in Central Asia, including with regard to Afghanistan. The recent and ongoing developments in Kyrgyzstan show that there is room for an increased role of our Organization in this country and with its neighbors, within and across each of the three dimensions. This also pertains to regional co-operation in addressing common threats to their, and our, security as a whole.

We look forward to fruitful deliberations in the Preparatory Committee in the coming weeks, and to the presentation of the incoming Chairmanship's Perception Paper.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Los países candidatos TURQUÍA, CROACIA\* y la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA\*; los países del Proceso de Estabilización y Asociación y los países candidatos potenciales, ALBANIA, BOSNIA Y HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO y SERBIA; los países de la Asociación

Europea de Libre Comercio y los miembros del Espacio Económico Europeo, ISLANDIA, LIECHTENSTEIN y NORUEGA; al igual que la REPÚBLICA DE MOLDAVIA y GEORGIA se suman a esta declaración.

\*Croacia y la Antigua República Yugoslava de Macedonia siguen perteneciendo al proceso de Estabilización y Asociación