

**Spanish Presidency of the European Union****OSCE Permanent Council No. 818  
Vienna, 24<sup>th</sup> June 2010****EU statement to the address by the Minister for Foreign  
Affairs of Thailand, H.E. Mr. Kasit**

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The European Union warmly welcomes H.E. Mr. Kasit, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Thailand, to this meeting of the Permanent Council, and thanks him for his address.

The EU and Thailand have undertaken significant cooperation efforts with positive results. We are willing to proceed in this path, including in what regards our political dialogue. The conclusion of the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement is a key objective. It provides a modern framework for the cooperation between the EU and Thailand.

We would like to refer to the declaration on May 21<sup>st</sup> 2010 of Ms Ashton after the tragic events that took place in Bangkok. The declaration expressed the EU readiness to help in the process of building consensus towards national reconciliation.

The EU welcomes the contribution of Thailand to the OSCE's Asian Partners for Cooperation as recently demonstrated with the

workshop and field visit on combating illicit crop cultivation and enhancing border security and management. Its positive results and added value have been widely recognized. Thailand and the EU share an approach based on mutually beneficial exchanges of experiences, best practices and lessons learned, making full use of a comprehensive and multi-dimensional concept of security.

The EU looks forward to increased cooperation between the OSCE and the ASEAN Regional Forum. In our view, the work being carried out in the ARF is important for the OSCE, both regarding possibilities for exchanges of experience and considering the global implications for Southeast Asia security. The EU welcomes Thailand's efforts in the framework of ARF, in the areas of disaster preparedness and management, and underlines the positive cooperation between the European Commission and the ARF bodies.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we would like to thank H.E. Foreign Minister Kasit for addressing the Permanent Council today, and wish him and his country all the best for the challenging tasks ahead.

Los países candidatos TURQUÍA, CROACIA\*, la ANTIGUA REPÚBLICA YUGOSLAVA DE MACEDONIA\* e ISLANDIA; 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, LIECHTENSTEIN Y NORUEGA; al igual que la REPÚBLICA DE MOLDAVIA, ARMENIA y GEORGIA se suman a esta declaración.

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