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United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE

REPRESENTATION PERMANENTE DE LA FRANCE AUPRES DE L'O.S.C.E

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATIONS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE REPUBLIC OF FRANCE TO THE 626th MEETING OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION

UK-FRANCE DEFENCE CO-OPERATION TREATY

Mr Chairman

I am delighted to announce, on behalf of the UK and French delegations, that a new programme of Defence co-operation between the UK and France was announced by British Prime Minister David Cameron and French President Nicolas Sarkozy yesterday, Tuesday 2 November 2010.

The measures agreed between the UK and France include:

• jointly developing a Combined Joint Expeditionary Force (CJEF) as a non-standing bilateral capability able to carry out a range of operations in the future whether acting bilaterally or through NATO, the EU or other coalition arrangements - this concept will be developed over the coming years;

• building primarily on maritime task group co-operation around the French carrier Charles de Gaulle - the UK and France will aim to have, by the early 2020s, the ability to deploy a UK-French integrated carrier strike group incorporating assets owned by both countries;

• developing joint military doctrine and training programmes;

• extending bilateral co-operation on the acquisition of equipment and technologies, for example in unmanned aerial systems, complex weapons, submarine technologies, satellite communications and research and technology;

• aligning wherever possible our logistics arrangements - including providing spares and support to the new A400M transport aircraft;

• developing a stronger defence industrial and technology base; and

• enhancing joint working to defend against emerging security concerns such as cyber security.

Overall, the Defence Co-operation Treaty will enable the strengthening of operational linkages between the French and UK Armed Forces, sharing and pooling of materials and equipment, building of joint facilities, mutual access to defence markets, and increased industrial and technological co-operation.

Mr Chairman, the UK and France will be circulating the full text of the agreement separately in both English and French. I should be grateful if you would attach this statement to the Journal of the Meeting.

Thank you Mr Chairman.