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EUROPEAN UNION

ENGLISH only

**OSCE Review Conference
Warsaw, 5 October 2010**

EU Statement - Point of Order

Thank you Mr. Moderator.

Belgium on behalf of the EU would like to make a point of order following the OSCE Rules of Procedure, Chapter 6, point (A), paragraph (e).

The EU highly appreciates the active participation of civil society. Their interventions and recommendations during the OSCE Human Dimension meetings and the Human Dimension part of the Review Conference, and the courage of their members in defending human rights, in often difficult circumstances, are crucial elements in ensuring that human rights are respected in the OSCE region.

The EU remains strongly committed to the open and free participation of non-governmental organizations in OSCE Human Dimension meetings, as is set out in our commitments.

It is our view that, when a decision is taken on the registration of an NGO, there can only be one element of consideration, namely the respect of Chapter IV, paragraph 16 of the Helsinki Document 1992, namely that persons or organization can not participate in OSCE events only when they “resort to the use of violence or publicly condone terrorism or the use of violence”.

The EU therefore strongly regrets that the Turkmen NGO members, Mr. Nurmukhammed Khanamov and Mr. Annadurdy Khadzhev have so far not been allowed to participate in this Review Conference, in spite of the fact that they participated in OSCE events in previous years and do not breach the condition set by the earlier mentioned 1992 Helsinki Document provision.

The EU strongly demands that they are admitted to participate in this year's OSCE Review Conference, in accordance with the OSCE commitments.