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## **EUROPEAN UNION**

### **OSCE Review Conference Vienna, 26 October 2010**

#### **“The way forward”**

#### **EU Statement**

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Mr Chair, Excellencies, Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The EU's overall priorities for the Summit are well-known: addressing the entire conflict cycle, progress in the field of conventional arms control, strengthening implementation of commitments, particularly in the human dimension, and tackling trans-national threats.

We stress the substantive importance of the economic and environmental dimension in the OSCE's concept of comprehensive security and cooperation and its role in early warning, conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.

The EU also strongly supports the Security Community concept. We recognize that achieving our overarching goal to build a Security Community requires that human rights, the rule of law, good governance, transparency and democratic principles need to be fully respected and further advanced, and that implementation of principles and

commitments must be improved. In this sense we believe that the Economic and Environmental Dimension has an important role to play in addressing the economic and environmental issues that have a direct impact on the lives of all of us living within the OSCE area. In this context we support the proposal made during this Review Conference that, at the forthcoming Summit, the OSCE should formally endorse the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

Throughout this Review Conference the EU has highlighted the importance we attach to the reinforcement of the confidence building potential of the EED, and to the development of an effective early warning capacity. We believe that such an approach should be reflected in the Astana Summit Document.

As recommended by the CiO's report on the future orientation of the EED of the OSCE (Verbeek report), the EU underlines the necessity to further develop the confidence-building activities of the EED. Organizing a workshop where previous experiences are presented could be a first important step to be undertaken.

Moreover the EU believes that Summit document should reaffirm that the OSCE can support and add value to national and international efforts in addressing transnational threats not the least through its comprehensive approach to security also including economic and environmental aspects. Against this background, the EU proposes to focus on utilizing more strategically, and to defining more clearly, the contributions and comparative advantages that the OSCE as a regional organization can make in this regard.

Taking into account the report of the Secretary General on the complementary role of the OSCE in the field of energy security presented by CoEEA during the Review Conference we reiterate that the OSCE has a specific role to play in the energy security dialogue. We support including this topic in the Summit document.

As the UN Secretary General made clear when he addressed the PC there is a role for regional organizations such as the OSCE in tackling the security implication of climate change. The importance that the EU attaches to this issue is well known. We believe that this topic should be one of the priority areas for the future streamlined work of the OCEEA and should be included in the Summit document.

We reiterate our view that the tools already available such as the mandates given to the OCEAA by previous Summits namely the Lisbon Document of 1996, the Charter for European Security of 1999; and its Platform for Cooperative Dialogue, and the 2003 Maastricht strategy are still valid and their full implementation remains a priority for the EU. The OSCE should also strengthen its cooperation with other international organisations in order to share information, enhance complementary efforts and avoid duplication on the basis of the OSCE Platform for Co-operative Security.

In order to reach these goals, the Summit in Astana should agree a political document and a comprehensive programme of action that should strengthen existing instruments, including by updating the existing commitments in order to allow the organization to respond more firmly to new threats to security, and develop additional tools in all three dimensions to prevent the violent outbreak of tensions, settle protracted

and newly emerging conflicts and rehabilitate societies ravaged by war and destruction.

I thank you, Mr Chairman.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\* and ICELAND, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, ARMENIA, AZERBAIJAN, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

\*Croatia and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

\*\* Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and the European Economic Area.