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United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Report by CiO Personal Representative, Brigadier General Costanzo Periotto, on Dayton Accords Article IV Implementation

As delivered by Deputy Chief of Mission Carol Fuller
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
September 9, 2010

General Periotto, we thank you for your update on Article IV implementation and once again congratulate the Parties for their continued success in implementing the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control. The United States recognizes that the Agreement has contributed significantly to the peace and stability of the region and has done much to foster confidence and cooperation throughout the Western Balkans.

We note with satisfaction that the implementation of the Agreement maintains its extremely productive course with the successful execution of 635 inspections, the continued downsizing of the Parties' armaments, and further reductions in military manpower. These achievements demonstrate indisputably the professionalism, maturity, and commitment of the Parties to the success of the Agreement and most importantly to a lasting peace and stability for the region.

We further commend the Parties' efforts over the past year to implement the first phase of the Ownership Action Plan and we look forward to their continued success in fulfilling their obligations and commitments to the ownership process. We support and encourage close and early coordination between the Parties and the Office of the Personal Representative to prepare for the second phase of the Ownership Plan which will prepare the Parties to achieve the eventual goal of full autonomy.

We look forward to the continued successful implementation of the Article IV Agreement, and fully affirm our support for the Personal Representative and his staff to make this possible. The United States stands ready to provide appropriate support in working toward these goals and views the continued presence and support of the international community as important in this process.

General Periotto, we again thank you for your report, the work of your office and staff, and your commitment to the Parties and to this important Agreement. We look forward to your continued progress in implementing the goals you have just clearly described.