



PC.DEL/407/11
5 May 2011

EUROPEAN UNION

ENGLISH only

**OSCE Permanent Council Nr 860
Vienna, 5 May 2011**

**EU statement in response to the address by the
CICA Executive Director, H.E. Ambassador Çınar Aldemir**

The European Union warmly welcomes Ambassador Aldemir to the Permanent Council and thanks him for his address.

The EU welcomes the continued efforts of the Lithuanian Chairmanship to encourage co-operation between the OSCE and other regional actors, in line with the Platform for Co-operative Security, and to increase the visibility of their activities towards achieving our common goal of greater security. We also recognise the previous Kazakh Chairmanship's contribution to promote co-operation between the OSCE and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA).

The EU strongly believes that the security of the OSCE region is inseparably linked to the security of adjacent areas and welcomes the attention devoted to Central Asia and neighbouring regions. In this context, the EU reiterates the need to contribute effectively to collective international efforts aimed at promoting a stable, independent, prosperous and democratic Afghanistan.

The EU recognises that a number of challenges remain to be addressed in the area covered by the CICA, a region characterised by a significant ethnic, cultural, political and economic diversity. The EU welcomes the expressed commitment

by CICA Member States to overcome differences through co-operation and constructive dialogue, an approach shared by the OSCE. The common approach and the similarity of activities offer a good basis for result-oriented co-operation between the two organisations. We will carefully study the Executive Director's proposal for co-operation in the field of combating terrorism and related new challenges, and the possibilities for collaboration in areas linked to activities in the second dimension of the OSCE.

The EU agrees that the extensive toolbox developed within the framework of the OSCE can serve as an example for other organisations and act as a catalyst for the implementation of confidence building measures in different areas. Similarly, the work of the OSCE can be enriched by the expertise of other organisations. The OSCE relies on a comprehensive and co-operative approach to security, which addresses the human, economic and environmental, political and military dimension of security as an integral whole. The EU has the firm conviction that different aspects of security are equally important and that safeguarding the security of the individual is inseparable of the security of states.

In conclusion, let me once again thank Ambassador Aldemir for his address and wish him every success in his future work.

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

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

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