

# Prohlášení Statement Déclaration

Vienna 12 March 2009

## **Permanent Council No. 754 EU Statement in response to the OSCE Coordinator of the Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Goran Svilanovic**

The European Union warmly welcomes the Coordinator of the Economic and Environmental Activities Mr. Svilanovic to his first appearance to the PC and thanks him for his report.

Madam Chair, as stated on the occasion of the presentation of the 2009 Action Plan to the Economic and Environmental Committee, the EU appreciates that the Coordinator endorses the priorities of the Greek Chairmanship which have our full support. The EU also welcomes the Coordinator's support and contribution to the 17th EEF on the topic of migration. We welcome his intention to further streamline his Office's activities and build on its 2008 achievements, avoiding duplication with the role and work of other fora and international organizations and focusing on areas of activity directly linked to security in the economic and environmental sectors. In the second dimension, the EU encourages the upcoming Kazakh and Lithuanian Chairmanships to build on achievements of previous Chairmanships.

The European Union remains of the opinion that the OSCE is well placed to examine the security implications of climate change in its region. We are looking forward to the discussions with all participating States under the

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guidance of the Greek Chairmanship aimed at identifying a complementary role the OSCE could play with regard to this challenge.

The EU welcomes the focus of the Greek Chairmanship in the second dimension on other current issues, such as energy security and security aspects of the global financial crisis. The EU remains committed to the inclusive approach embracing those aspects of energy security where the OSCE could contribute with added value. We recall in this context the MC decision 12/06 on energy security dialogue and welcome the intention of the Office to continue its implementation.

The current financial crisis may most probably bring new security challenges to the participating States. The OSCE and its second dimension should examine what can be done in this regard based on the assessment and inputs from individual participating States and other stakeholders in order to identifying response measures aimed at fostering security and stability in the OSCE area.

The EU encourages the Office to continue developing mechanisms aimed at effective contribution to the security of the OSCE region through confidence-building economic cooperation and strengthening good governance, anti-corruption efforts and the rule of law in the economic and environmental spheres. We reiterate our position on the necessity for the Coordinator and his Office to concentrate their activities on the security aspects of our considered themes.

The EU would like to see economic and environmental initiatives with a more direct link to security and with practical outcomes and we therefore encourage the Coordinator and his office to work closely both with the

field operations and with other OSCE structures, including the CPC. We especially welcome the Coordinator's intention to keep an open mind for water issues, thus following up on the Spanish and the Finnish themes. We also see merit in continuing confidence building, including by implementing economic projects in the conflict zones in Georgia.

The EU is convinced that the second dimension themes and issues constitute a promising field of activities connected to the security of the participating States. In this perspective, we believe there is a need to organize the works of this dimension with a view to maximizing their efficiency. Any reflexion undertaken in this perspective is welcome and we are ready to actively participate in the discussions of the informal meetings which will be called in the months to come.

In conclusion, we would like to thank Mr. Svilanovic and his team for their dedicated work and wish them the best of success in their future activities.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA\* and the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA\*, 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 ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY align themselves with this statement.

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