



## STATEMENT ON ELECTIONS IN KOSOVO

As delivered by Ambassador Guttorm Vik  
to the Permanent Council,  
Vienna, November 22 2007

Mr. Chairman.

Like the EU and others, Norway also commends the OSCE Mission in Kosovo for its valuable assistance to the authorities in Kosovo in organising the elections held on 17 November.

We are pleased that the elections took place in a peaceful and orderly manner and that international observers found the conduct of the elections to be in accordance with internationally recognized standards.

Norway regrets the low participation among Kosovo Serbs and Belgrade's call for a boycott.

As stated before this Council last week, we strongly believe that self-isolation will not bring any benefit, but only exacerbate the challenges facing all those who are committed to a democratic and multi-ethnic Kosovo.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman