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**Conseil Permanent No. 733
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EU Statement on additional military monitoring officers in the OSCE Mission to Georgia

Last week the EU expressed its support to PC.DD/29/08/Rev.2 which would have provided for 80 additional MMOs to be deployed as a follow-up to PC Decision 861 of 19 August 2008. We regret that in spite of the overwhelming support for Revision 2, consensus could not be reached on this decision.

In view of this situation, the contribution of the OSCE will have for the present to remain at 28 MMOs, who will play an important role given the OSCE's extensive experience in the region and in light of its comprehensive approach towards building peace and security. It has been the EU's position that these MMOs will also be able to operate in South Ossetia, Georgia.

We thank the Chairman-in-Office and his team for his tireless efforts to reach consensus.

The EU remains ready to support the CiO in his efforts and to contribute to further discussions and initiatives on this matter.

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