

PC.DEL/685/08  
31 July 2008

ENGLISH  
Original: FRENCH

**STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AT THE  
724th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

31 July 2008

**Regarding the adoption of the agenda for the  
Human Dimension Implementation Meeting**

Mr. Chairman,

The European Union welcomes the adoption of the agenda for the 2008 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and looks forward to a productive meeting in the autumn.

The agenda as adopted will enable all participating States and other parties in attendance to take up and examine the implementation of the full range of human dimension commitments, including those having to do with human rights defenders and the treatment of prisoners.

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, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area Iceland and Norway; as well as Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova align themselves with this statement.

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