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**EUROPEAN UNION**

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**OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 717  
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**EU Statement on UNSCR 1540 implementation**

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The European Union (EU) and its Member States warmly welcome H.E. Ambassador Kim Sook, Chairman of the United Nations Security Council Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004), and wish to thank him for his comprehensive and valuable presentation on the role of regional organisations in strengthening further the implementation of UNSCR 1540.

We attach high importance to the full implementation of UNSCR 1540 and subsequent resolutions 1673, 1810 and 1977. We would like to reiterate our strong support for regional and national efforts towards the implementation of UNSCR 1540, including through information sharing, enhanced cooperation with the 1540 Committee and with United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), as well as provision of assistance to those States that require it. We also welcome new innovative approaches for further promotion of UNSCR 1540 implementation, including the UNODA facilitated Croatia-Poland Initiative on 1540 Peer Review, to be conducted later this year.

The EU Council has adopted two Joint Actions in support of the practical implementation of UNSCR 1540, respectively in 2006 and 2008, both of them implemented by UNODA, while the adoption process of a new EU Council Decision is close to its finalisation. We believe that this Decision should be implemented in close cooperation with the OSCE and other international organisations and agencies to ensure effective synergies and avoid duplication.

We commend activities of the OSCE executive structures, conducted in accordance with the Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/11 on the proper role of the OSCE in facilitation of UNSCR 1540. We attach high importance to ensuring further sustainability of the OSCE's operational capacities facilitating implementation of UNSCR 1540. In this regard, the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE Secretariat and the

United Nations on joint implementation of projects on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, in response to OSCE participating States requests, signed in October 2011, may serve as a particularly useful tool.

We support further OSCE contributions, in particular developing of practical activities, inter alia provision of assistance to participating States, at their request, for the development of national action plans and national legislation. We also support the conduct of further training programs on the implementation of UNSCR 1540 at the OSCE Border Management Staff College in Dushanbe, promoting best practices guides and strengthening information exchange networks between participating States on issues related to national implementation of UNSCR 1540.

Finally, we would like to once again thank Ambassador Kim Sook for his presentation and wish him and his staff every success in further promoting the implementation of UNSCR 1540.

The acceding country CROATIA<sup>\*</sup>, the candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND<sup>\*\*</sup> and SERBIA, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, ARMENIA and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

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<sup>\*</sup> Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.