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Schweizerische Delegation bei der OSZE Délégation de Suisse auprès de l'OSCE Delegation of Switzerland to the OSCE

845 Special Permanent Council, 23 December 2010 Statement of Switzerland: Adoption of the Unified Budget 2011

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

We would like to thank the Lithuanian Chair of the ACMF for his tireless efforts to bring participating States to a consensus on the 2011 OSCE Unified Budget.

In recent times, we have recognized a growing political will among the participating States to strengthen our organisation again. The Astana Declaration and its future oriented assignment clearly confirm this approach. Against this background, Switzerland has been advocating to support these ambitions with a *solid* budget 2011; a budget that corresponds to the expectations raised by our political discourse. This is clearly not the case with the 2011 Unified Budget.

We know, however, that all of us are currently facing economic constraints and it is in the light of these circumstances that we see the outcome of the budget negotiations. On the positive side of the equation, we value the in-time adoption of the 2011 budget showing that this organisation is capable of reaching a consensus on an important matter, which we find is an encouraging sign. It is in this spirit that we support the 2011 Unified Budget.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.