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## Swedish Presidency of the European Union

**OSCE Permanent Council No. 787  
Vienna 22 December 2009**

### **EU statement on the 2010 Unified Budget**

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The European Union warmly welcomes the adoption by the Permanent Council of the 2010 OSCE Unified Budget, which we for the first time in years managed to do on time. This is yet another example, following the successful Athens Ministerial Council Decision and Declaration on the Corfu Process, of the OSCE putting its house back in order. We thank all those who worked tirelessly to make today's adoption of the budget possible.

The European Union would like to note that the adopted Unified Budget is a compromise in which no one gets everything and everyone gets something. We have made concessions, sometimes painful, as have others. Although the discussion has at times been difficult and touched issues of great concern, we appreciate that the work was carried out in a constructive and, ultimately, flexible spirit and that the atmosphere was often cordial.

Finally, we would like to congratulate Kazakhstan and its chair of the Advisory Committee on Management and Finance for the able leadership shown in the course of the budget negotiation. Needless

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to say, this achievement is a positive prelude to the Kazakh OSCE Chairmanship.

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, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO and SERBIA, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and ARMENIA align themselves with this statement.

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