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**OSCE Permanent Council No. 820
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EU statement in response to the Secretary General's report on implementation of MC.DEC/2/09 on further OSCE efforts to address transnational threats and challenges to security and stability

The European Union thanks the Secretary General for submitting a comprehensive report that contributes to current deliberations on OSCE activities related to transnational threats, notably in the Corfu Process.

Mr. Chairman

The European Union appreciates the variety of recommendations compiled in the final part of the report, notwithstanding their further elaboration in detail. We also acknowledge that the report has endeavoured to address areas of activities that to date have not been adequately underpinned by the existing OSCE structures and programmes.

However, in accordance with the general mandate of MC.DEC/2/09, we should explore and exploit potential synergies and better coherence regarding established OSCE programmes on transnational threats. For instance activities related to border security and management, to the

respect for human rights and the rule of law in law enforcement, to capacity building on anti-corruption or to travel document security have been highlighted in the Corfu Process as areas of OSCE added-value. We need further assessment as to how to render the OSCE more effective in these salient areas.

In the same vein, MC.DEC/2/09 has advocated stepping up efforts on transnational threats in a cross-dimensional manner. We should more closely assess the role and the potential of OSCE institutions vis-à-vis the Secretariat and operational links with OSCE field-missions. We encourage the Secretary General to provide additional suggestions in this regard in the framework of the Corfu Process.

Mr. Chairman,

The European Union will support immediate measures taken by the Secretary General within existing mandates to strengthen internal coordination and external interaction. Possible action in this respect has been outlined in the report's recommendations. We invite the Secretary General to brief delegations on pertinent measures in due course.

Furthermore, the European Union adheres to the Secretary General's explicit appeal to consolidate and to modernize the existing mandates on OSCE activities on transnational threats that are currently dispersed in numerous documents. EU Key Messages delivered at the Corfu meeting on 9 March 2010 suggested reviewing existing framework documents and examining the need for additional strategic documents. A renovated

and consolidated set of OSCE mandates on transnational threats would not only be an important prerequisite for greater coherence, it could also underscore OSCE's comparative advantages and give guidance on real priorities for the next few years.

Mr. Chairman,

From now on we must bring together the on-going programmatic discussions and the report's structural recommendations as one "single track". The European Union stands ready to actively contribute to the development of such "integrated" proposals for draft decisions in the next few months.

Finally, improved internal and external co-ordination, consolidated mandates and implementation of clear priorities will allow for an efficient use of existing funding and staff. Given the current financial environment, requests for additional resources – e.g. regarding new units or additional analytical capacities- could only be considered if and where deliberations demonstrate compelling arguments to strengthen OSCE's capacities in a targeted area, and where it can be shown that prioritisation and internal efficiencies have already been reached.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA*, the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA* and ICELAND, 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

LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

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