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Swedish Presidency of the European Union

Conference on “Strengthening Energy Security in the OSCE Area” Bratislava 6-7 July 2009

EU Statement

The EU thanks the Greek OSCE Chairmanship, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Slovak Republic and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities for arranging this conference and for preparing an interesting as well as balanced agenda.

The EU welcomes this event as a further step in order to implement the MC Decision 12/06 from Brussels stating inter alia that the OSCE should serve as a platform for energy security dialogue. We are convinced that there is a clear link between energy and security; we therefore see a merit in fostering dialogue on the OSCE's role in dealing with this issue. At the same time, we believe that developing dialogue on energy security within the OSCE requires a strong focus on matters where our Organization can bring a real added value.

The EU anticipates interesting discussions here in Bratislava. Indeed, we look forward to further debates also after this event on various aspects of energy security in the OSCE area. We are ready to take active part in the follow-up discussions on this very pertinent issue in order to implement the decisions taken by our ministers and to ensure continuity in the work of the second dimension.

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