PC.DEL/7/08 10 January 2008

ENGLISH only

Interpretative Statement of the Delegations of Belgium, The Netherlands and Sweden to the OSCE, made under Chapter IV of the Rules of Procedure to the Decision of the Permanent Council on the Establishment of an OSCE Office in Zagreb:

The Delegations of Belgium, The Netherlands and Sweden restate their belief that the Sarajevo process, which is supported by the OSCE and to which Croatia freely committed to, is a useful process which contributes to building regional consensus on the issue of refugee return. They regret that a reference to the Sarajevo Process in the Decision of the Permanent Council on the Establishment of an OSCE Office in Zagreb proved to be unacceptable for Croatia. They trust that notwithstanding this position Croatia will stay committed to the cooperation and its obligations in this framework.

The Delegations of Belgium, The Netherlands and Sweden have joined the consensus on this Decision with the understanding that the reporting on residual aspects of the implementation of the housing care programmes in Croatia also includes the monitoring of those housing programmes in the context of refugee return and integration.

We request that this interpretative statement will be attached to the text of this Decision.