

Prohlášení
Statement
Déclaration

Vienna 28 May 2009

Permanent Council No.762
EU Statement on the last round of Geneva discussions on Georgia

The EU is pleased that, in line with the 6 point agreement of 12 August 2008 and the subsequent implementing measures of 8 September 2008 the fifth round of the Geneva discussions on Georgia took place on 18-19 May 2009. We also note with satisfaction that an agreement could be reached on the next round of discussions to be held on 1 July. The EU especially welcomes the continuation of the discussions in which the OSCE will continue to play a full and active role as well as the common understanding reached by participants in both working groups.

In Working Group 1 dedicated to security, the EU takes note that all participants recommitted themselves to implementing the joint incident prevention and response mechanisms, which are important confidence building measures. The EU expects the OSCE to contribute to the implementation of these mechanisms, and is looking forward to the follow-up meeting scheduled for tomorrow in Dvani.

In Working Group 2 dealing with humanitarian-related issues, the EU is encouraged by the constructive first exchange of views on five concept papers. The EU welcomes agreement on a joint need assessment study to be led by an independent expert under the auspices of the OSCE to look at the repair needs to guarantee water supplies.

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The EU reiterates its firm commitment to the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders.

The candidate countries TURKEY, CROATIA* and FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA and MONTENEGRO, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area ICELAND and NORWAY, as well as UKRAINE and the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA align themselves with this statement.

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