



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation Nr 707 Vienna, 30 January 2013

EU Statement on Mongolia's National Security Strategy and Defense Policy

The European Union (EU) welcomes Director Munk-Ochir Dorjjugder to the Forum for Security Co-operation and thanks him for his very informative presentation on Mongolia's National Security Strategy and Defence Policy.

Today marks the first occasion when a Mongolian official has addressed the FSC since becoming a participating State. Having supported Mongolia's application, the EU wishes to reiterate its appreciation and congratulate Mongolia for this important foreign policy achievement. We anticipate fruitful cooperation with Mongolia in the OSCE and in other international fora, alongside our bilateral work, striving to tackle global security challenges.

Today's presentation underlines Mongolia's engagement with international organisations and its contribution to international peacekeeping. We commend your efforts to conceptualise security and defence policy and support the objective of establishing "a consistent peacemaking foreign policy coupled with active support for international community efforts aimed at strengthening peace and security".

The forthcoming signature of a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement and high-level exchanges foreseen for 2013 provide an opportunity to strengthen our bilateral relations. Mongolia is both an economic and political partner in an important geostrategic position where we aim to enhance and broaden the scope of political dialogue and relationships.

The EU values cooperation with partner countries in Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) matters which lend political and

practical support to promoting international peace and security. Several partner countries are significant contributors to CSDP crisis management operations in various regions of Europe, Asia and Africa.

We envisage good prospects for developing security and defence cooperation with Mongolia in the future. The EU's engagement in the wider Central Asian region and notably in Afghanistan, where the EU is conducting the Afghanistan National Police Training Mission, exemplifies such opportunities.

In conclusion we would like to once again thank Mr Dorjjugder as well as the Liechtenstein FSC Chairmanship for having organised this presentation.

The acceding country CROATIA^{*}, the candidate countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA, MONTENEGRO, ICELAND^{**} and SERBIA, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association country NORWAY, member of the European Economic Area, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and ARMENIA align themselves with this statement.

^{*} Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

^{**} Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.