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ENGLISH only

United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE

STATEMENT BY THE UNITED KINGDOM DELEGATION ON OLYMPIC GAMES 2012 – ARMS CONTROL AND CSBM VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES

Mr Chairman

Participating States will be aware that the United Kingdom is hosting the London Olympic Games, followed by the Paralympic Games, over the period 14 July - 12 September 2012.

The United Kingdom unreservedly reconfirms its continued intention to implement fully its arms control and confidence and security building commitments. Inevitably, however, there may be some constraints on what is achievable during this specific period, that is from 14 July 2012 until 12 September 2012, and the days immediately before and after this.

Participating States are requested to take note of the resource and practical pressures that the United Kingdom will face over this period when planning their verification activity for 2012, in particular noting the heavy concentrations of all types of traffic in and around London, where there will be severe restrictions on ground and airspace access. If it were possible to avoid undertaking arms control verification activities in the United Kingdom during this period, and particularly in the south eastern areas of the UK around London, this consideration would be very much appreciated.

Thank you, Mr Chairman