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EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Permanent Council Nr 905 Vienna, 15 March 2012

EU statement on the elections in the breakaway region of Abkhazia in Georgia

In view of the reports about the elections in the Georgian breakaway region of Abkhazia on 10 March 2012, the European Union would like to recall that the EU does not recognise the constitutional and legal framework within which these elections have taken place.

The EU reiterates its firm support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Georgia within its internationally recognized borders. The EU also emphasises the importance of finding a peaceful settlement to the conflicts in the region and calls for a strong commitment by all concerned parties in this regard.

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 candidates countries ALBANIA and BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, the European Free Trade Association countries LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

*Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and 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.