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LITHUANIA

**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
DELIVERED BY H.E. AMBASSADOR DARIUS SEMAŠKA
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA TO THE OPCW
AT THE SEVENTY-THIRD SESSION OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM “FOLLOW-UP TO THE THIRD REVIEW CONFERENCE”**

Mr Chairperson,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the European Union.

The candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia^{*}, Montenegro^{*} and the Republic of Serbia^{*}, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates the Republic of Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as the Principality of Andorra, the Republic of Armenia, Georgia, the Principality of Monaco, the Republic of Moldova, the Republic of San Marino and Ukraine align themselves with this statement.

The European Union considers that the Third Review Conference offered guidance for the work of the Organisation for next five years. The Third Review Conference outcomes should be implemented under the supervision of the Executive Council. The Executive Council agenda should include the follow-up to the Third Review Conference as a standing item.

The follow-up process should be conducted in cooperation between States Parties and the Technical Secretariat including, as appropriate, stakeholders such as chemical industry associations, the private sector, academia and civil society. Such an approach will support building on existing competencies, developing synergies and avoiding duplication of efforts.

The European Union takes note of the matrix of follow-up activities from the Third Review Conference prepared by the Technical Secretariat. The Executive Council should in close cooperation with the Technical Secretariat develop a roadmap to implement the outcomes of the Third Review Conference, which should be supplemented by activities of the Technical Secretariat. The issues which are not ripe for the consideration of the Executive Council could be discussed among interested States Parties and the Secretariat.

The European Union will offer active support to the Executive Council and its Chairperson, Ambassador Olexander Horin of Ukraine, to guide the development and the implementation of the Third Review Conference.

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



Thank you, Mr Chairperson, and I request that this statement be treated as an official document of this session of the Council.

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