

STATEMENT ON NORWEGIAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE OSCE SPECIAL MONITORING MISSION TO UKRAINE

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile to the Permanent Council Vienna, 3rd November 2014

Mr Chairman,

I aligned myself with the statement made by Italy on behalf of the European Union. I would like to make a few additional remarks in my national capacity.

Mr Chairman,

Crisis management is a core activity of the OSCE.

Core activities should be financed by all 57, according to established procedures.

So far we have financed the SMM primarily through extra-budgetary contributions from able and willing OSCE participating States.

Norway has so far contributed one million Euros.

Financing through extra-budgetary contributions is not sustainable. Our view is that extra-budgetary contributions should only come in addition to an ordinary – at 57 – budget. Such extra-budgetary – voluntary – contributions would include in kind contributions.

Mr Chairman,

We – the PC – have been pressing for a rapid expansion of the SMM up to the ceiling of 500 monitors, with necessary infrastructure. This process is well under way, and it requires that we urgently provide the SMM with financial means.

As we argue for a more sustainable way of financing the SMM, we are ready to contribute voluntarily.

I am today happy to announce an additional Norwegian contribution of one million Euros.

Thank you.