Statement on behalf of the Member States of the European Union

Regional restructuring of OHCHR

Jan De Preter - Counsellor

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Mister Chair,

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

The following countries align themselves with this statement:

The Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro and Albania*, the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the Republic of Moldova.

I would like to thank Bettina Tucci Bartsiotas, ASG and Controller, for introducing the update of the Secretary General's reports on the regional restructuring of the OHCHR. I would also like to thank Mr. Carlos Ruiz Massieu, Chair of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, for introducing the report of the Advisory Committee.

In November 2016, the member states of the European Union welcomed

the report on the proposed regional restructuring of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

At the time, we noted that this report had been submitted on the basis of a recommendation of ACABQ as formulated in its report A/70/7 on the 2016-

2017 Proposed Program Budget. This ACABQ recommendation requested the SG to provide a clearer and more detailed proposal as compared to the proposal presented to us by the SG in the framework of the 2016-2017 proposed programme budget. This particular ACABQ report was published in August 2015.

In March 2017 the SG has presented once again an updated proposal that

supervision would be introduced as a result of this restructuring. We

note with appreciation that this exercise will be cost neutral.

For all these reasons we see merit in the proposal of the SG to strengthen