EUROPEAN UNION

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Declaration by the High Representative on behalf of the European Union on the alignment of certain third countries with Council Decision 2012/122/CFSP amending Decision 2011/782/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria and Council Implementing Decision 2012/172/CFSP to that Decision, and Council Decision 2012/206/CFSP amending that Decision and Council Implementing Decision 2012/256/CFSP to that Decision

On 27 February 2012, the Council adopted Council Decision 2012/122/CFSP[1]. The Council Decision amends Decision 2011/782/CFSP imposing additional restrictive measures and amends and updates the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures as set out in Annex I to Decision 2011/782/CFSP. The additional restrictive measures include measures against the Central Bank of Syria, a prohibition on the sale, purchase, transportation or brokering of gold, precious metals and diamonds to, from or for the Government of Syria, and a prohibition on access to the airports of Member States of cargo flights operated by Syrian carriers.

On 23 March 2012, the Council adopted Council Implementing Decision 2012/172/CFSP[2]. The Council Decision amends and updates the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures as set out in the Annex I to Decision 2011/782/CFSP.

1 Published on 28.2.2012 in the Official Journal of the European Union no. L 54, p. 14.
2 Published on 24.3.2012 in the Official Journal of the European Union no. L 87, p. 103.

On 23 April 2012, the Council adopted Council Decision 2012/206/CFSP[1]. The Council Decision amends Decision 2011/782/CFSP imposing additional restrictive measures. The amendments concern the addition of a prohibition, or the requirement of an authorization, for the sale, supply, transfer or export of further goods and technology which might be used for internal repression and a prohibition on the sale, supply, transfer or export of luxury goods to Syria.

On 14 May 2012, the Council adopted Council Implementing Decision 2012/256/CFSP[2]. The Council Decision amends and updates the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures as set out in the Annex I to Decision 2011/782/CFSP.

The Acceding Country Croatia*, the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro*, Iceland[+] and Serbia*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate Albania and the EFTA countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova and Georgia, align themselves with these decisions.

They will ensure that their national policies conform to these Council Decisions.

The European Union takes note of this commitment and welcomes it.

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1 Published on 24.4.2012 in the Official Journal of the European Union no. L 110, p. 36.

2 Published on 15.5.2012 in the Official Journal of the European Union no. L 126, p. 9.

* Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

+ Iceland continues to be a member of the EFTA and of the European Economic Area.