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TERREP FOR DEPUTY SECRETARY WHITEHEAD TODEP #50008

FOLLOWING LONDON 24316 DTD 18NOV86 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO  
EC COLLECTIVE DANASCUS REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO  
QUOTE:  
UNCLAS LONDON 24316

TERREP

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PIER, EEC, SY, UK  
SUBJECT: EC-12 POLITICAL COOPERATION MINISTERIAL;  
STATEMENT ON SYRIA: THE GREEKS OPT OUT

REF: LONDON 24208

3. WE WILL BE REPORTING IN GREATER DETAIL ON THE EPC MINISTERIAL IN LONDON (STILL IN PROGRESS) BUT DO WANT TO PASS ON THE FOLLOWING NOVEMBER 18 STATEMENT TO THE PRESS BY UK FOREIGN SECRETARY SIR GEOFFREY HOWE (EC COUNCIL PRESIDENT), MADE ON BEHALF OF ELEVEN EC MEMBER STATES, WITH THE GREEKS DECLINING TO JOIN IN THE CONSENSUS:

BEGIN TEXT:

(1) FOLLOWING ON FROM OUR DISCUSSION ON 27 OCTOBER OF SYRIAN INVOLVEMENT IN THE HINDAWI CASE, WE HAVE ALL AGREED THAT FURTHER JOINT ACTION IS ESSENTIAL TO PROTECT OUR CITIZENS FROM ANY POSSIBLE REPETITION OF SUCH ACTS OF TERRORISM.

(2) NO ONE SHOULD BE IN ANY DOUBT ABOUT OUR UNANIMOUS CONDEMNATION OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM AND OUR RESOLVE TO CURB TERRORISM IN ALL ITS FORMS. WE WISH TO SEND SYRIA THE clearest possible MESSAGE THAT WHAT HAS HAPPENED IS ABSOLUTELY UNACCEPTABLE.

(3) WE STAND FIRMLY BY THE COMMITMENTS IN PREVIOUS STATEMENTS AND HAVE THEREFORE DECIDED THAT THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL ACTION IS REQUIRED. IN THE PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES:

-- WE SHALL NOT AUTHORIZE NEW ARMS SALES TO SYRIA;

-- WE SHALL SUSPEND HIGH-LEVEL VISITS TO OR FROM SYRIA;

-- WE SHALL EACH REVIEW THE ACTIVITY OF SYRIAN DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR MISSIONS ACCREDITED IN OUR COUNTRY AND APPLY APPROPRIATE MEASURES;

-- WE SHALL EACH REVIEW AND TIGHTEN SECURITY PRECAUTIONS SURROUNDING THE OPERATIONS OF SYRIAN AIR.

(4) OUR EMBASSIES IN DAMASCUS WERE INSTRUCTED TO MAKE REPRESENTATIONS TO THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES. THE SYRIAN GOVERNMENT HAVE DELIVERED THEIR REPLY. AS FAR AS THE FACTS ARE CONCERNED, THIS ADDS NOTHING TO WHAT WAS CONSIDERED BY THE COURT WHICH FOUND HINDAWI GUILTY, AND TO WHAT THE EMBASSIES HAVE PRESENTED TO THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES.

(5) WE SHALL CONTINUE TO EMPLOY ALL THE POLITICAL MEANS AVAILABLE TO US IN ORDER TO PERSUADE THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES TO TRANSLATE INTO CONCRETE ACTION THEIR STATED CONDEMNATION OF INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM. IN PARTICULAR, WE CALL ON THEM TO END ALL FORMS OF SUPPORT FOR THOSE GROUPS WHICH HAVE BEEN CLEARLY INVOLVED IN TERRORIST ACTS AND TO DENY THEM ALL FACILITIES.

(6) OUR ACTIONS HAVE A SPECIFIC PURPOSE. WE LOOK TO THE SYRIAN AUTHORITIES FOR A CONSTRUCTIVE RESPONSE. WE HAVE CLOSE AND IMPORTANT LINKS WITH ALL THE COUNTRIES OF THE MIDDLE EAST WHICH WE REMAIN DETERMINED TO DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN. IN THIS RESPECT, WE RECALL THE PROPOSALS THE TWELVE HAVE MADE TO GIVE A NEW IMPETUS TO THE EURO-ARAB DIALOGUE, AND THE IMPORTANCE ATTACHED TO THIS IN THE RECENT COMMUNICATION DATED 6 NOVEMBER FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE ARAB LEAGUE. WE STRONGLY REAFFIRM OUR COMMITMENT TO CONTRIBUTE IN EVERY WAY WE CAN TO THE SEARCH FOR JUST AND LASTING SOLUTIONS TO THE REGION'S PROBLEMS.

(7) WE SHALL FOLLOW DEVELOPMENTS CLOSELY AND SHALL REMAIN IN REGULAR CONTACT ON ALL THESE ISSUES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF EUROPEAN POLITICAL COOPERATION.

END TEXT.  
PRICE UNQUOTE ARMAGOST  
BT

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