



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Response to General Zappulla**

Delivered by Douglas Davidson, Deputy Permanent Representative  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
September 5, 2003

Thank you Mr. Chairman. We too would like to warmly welcome General Zappulla back to the Permanent Council and to thank him for his very complete report today.

We agree with General Zappulla, that the Parties have indeed made significant progress in both Article II and Article IV activities. We have General Zappulla and his team to thank for this, and we also appreciate the cooperative and positive working relationship that he has developed and continues to maintain among the Parties and within the Contact Group.

Allow me to make a few very brief comments on each of the Agreements as we look ahead to 2004.

Concerning Article II - Let me say that we share the view that Emergency Response Exercises are a superb vehicle to develop cooperation among the Parties; cooperation that has a very particular result. We commend these efforts and look forward to the even more ambitious exercise that is planned for next year.

On Article IV - We also commend General Zappullas' work with the Parties in making such important progress on state-level inspections for Bosnia and Herzegovina, in dealing with the thorny issue of points of entry, and in pushing for reductions of holdings in exempted categories. We would find it very useful to learn from the Parties their plans for achieving reductions in exempted holdings for Research and Development to 5% of category ceilings by the end of 2004.

In closing let me add that the United States fully supports General Zappullas' patient and practical approach to the implementation of the Dayton agreements. We thank him for the progress the Parties made this past year under his stewardship. We look forward to working closely with him and his outstanding team in the year to come.