EU and Chile sign Framework Agreement on participation in EU crisis management operations

The EU and Chile have signed a Framework Participation Agreement for Chile's participation in EU crisis management operations. The Agreement was signed today in Brussels by the European External Action Service Executive Secretary General Pierre Vimont and by the Chilean Ambassador to the European Union, Carlos Appelgren Balbontin. It provides a legal basis to govern and facilitate the participation of the Republic of Chile in EU-led civilian and military crisis management operations. Since Chile and the EU share common values and the objective of maintaining peace, this Agreement constitutes a very significant result providing a structural framework to their cooperation in crisis management.

Chile has successfully participated in international peacekeeping operations since 1949 and has shown a steady support to the EU commitment to peace and security, including its much appreciated contribution of troops to the European Union Force ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina for over a decade. On a daily basis the professionalism of the Chilean contingent, serving alongside European men and women in the Balkans, has significantly contributed to the effectiveness of the ALTHEA operation.

The Agreement signed today is the first ever with a partner country in Latin America and the EU is looking forward to cooperating with Chile in its implementation.

Chile and the European Union are linked by an Association Agreement signed in 2002.

For photos and video of the signing ceremony: http://tvnewsroom.consilium.europa.eu/

For more information on EU-Chile relations: http://eeas.europa.eu/chile/index_en.htm