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PRESSE 357


Council Decision 2012/420/CFSP strengthens the enforcement of restrictive measures concerning arms and equipment for internal repression set out in Decision 2011/782/CFSP, in particular by imposing the obligation to inspect, in accordance with national legislation and consistent with international law, all vessels and aircraft bound for Syria in their seaports and airports, and in their territorial sea, if there is reasonable ground to believe the cargo of such vessels and aircraft contains prohibited goods.

Council Implementing Decision 2012/424/CFSP includes additional persons and entities to the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures as set out in the Annex I to Decision 2011/782/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Syria.

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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 this declaration.

They will ensure that their national policies conform to this Council Decision.

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

* 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.