

EUKOR

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### European Council Declaration on Iraq

The European Council remains deeply concerned with Iraq not having fully met its obligations to rid herself from weapons of mass destruction. The European Council reaffirms its full and unequivocal support for the Security Council Resolution 1441 of 8 November 2002. Its goal remains the peaceful, effective and complete disarmament of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction in accordance with the relevant UN Security Council Resolutions.

The people of Iraq must have a chance to rejoin the international community and to live in human dignity.

The sole responsibility for achieving a peaceful resolution lies in the hands of the Iraqi leadership. UNSCR 1441 provides the final opportunity for President Saddam Hussein to cooperate unconditionally with the international community's demands or to leave.

The European Council expresses its deep appreciation for the work undertaken by UNMOVIC and IAEA headed by Dr. Blix and Dr. El Baradei. Their report to the UN Security Council on 14 February has shown that the Iraqi leadership has not yet proven that it is ready to comply fully, actively and unconditionally with its international obligations. The unanimous support for the UNSCR 1441 has forced the Iraqi Government to recognize the determination of the international community to act. We must therefore exhaust all means provided by the framework of UNSCR 1441.

The European Council is ready to support all efforts to reinforce substantially the UN weapon inspections so as to give every chance for the peaceful disarmament of Iraq. Time is running short. The sole responsibility to weigh inspection results and to decide on consequences lies with the Security Council of the United Nations. There will be neither peace nor stability in the region unless the will of the United Nations is fully respected.