

**EU joint reply to the UNODA request related to
UNGA Resolution 69/46 on "Confidence-building measures in the regional and sub-regional
context"**

The European Union and its Member States strongly support the establishment of Confidence and Security building measures (CSBMs) in the regional and sub-regional context as an important tool to overcome mistrust, enhance transparency and maintain peace and security.

Confidence building measures are an important factor in preventing conflicts and enhance overall political stability and security environment, especially in situations of armed conflicts and areas of tension.

European Countries have greatly benefited from the CSBMs which were adopted in Europe in particular through the OSCE and measures contained in the Vienna document, the Treaty on Open Skies, the OSCE document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, the OSCE document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition and also in the framework of the EU neighbourhood policy implementation. In 2014, the EU has continued to promote several CBMs activities, as the ones based on the EU Council Decision 2012/711/CFSP of 19 November 2012, namely regarding export controls. We reiterate our longstanding position in favour of the full implementation and modernisation of such measures.

We will therefore continue to support and promote confidence building measures both in regional and sub-regional context, also in other areas of the world, taking into account the specific characteristics and needs of each region.