## COUNCIL OF <br> THE EUROPEAN UNION

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## Press Release on the Conciliation on macro-financial assistance to Georgia

The Conciliation Committee on macro-financial assistance to Georgia concluded successfully last night. It was co-chaired by Minister of State Brian Hayes for the Irish Presidency of the Council and by Vice-President Alejo Vidal-Quadras for the European Parliament. European Parliament rapporteur was Vital Moreira. The European Commission was represented by Commissioner László Andor.

European Union macro-financial assistance aims to provide support to third countries experiencing short-term balance-of-payments difficulties. The agreement reached between the Council and the European Parliament includes a Decision providing macro- financial assistance to Georgia for an amount of 46 Million Euro.

The two institutions also agreed that the adoption of the Georgia Decision should be seen in a wider context of the need for a framework that should secure sound and effective decisions on macro-financial assistance to third countries. The framework is laid down in a joint declaration by the European Parliament and the Council to be adopted together with the Decision on Georgia. The European Parliament and the Council commit to fully reflect these considerations and principles in the future individual decisions granting Union's macro-financial assistance, according to rules applicable following the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty.

Besides Georgia, the agreement reached last night will therefore open the way for providing assistance to other countries and territories, including the Kyrgyz Republic and Jordan for which the Commission has presented specific proposals. Egypt and Armenia have also requested assistance.

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