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Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 4356th meeting of the Security Council, held on 13 August 2001, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "The situation in The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council welcomes the signing of the Framework Agreement in The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by President Trajkovski and the leaders of four political parties on 13 August 2001. The Council calls for the full and immediate implementation of the Agreement, which promotes the peaceful and harmonious development of civil society while respecting the ethnic identity and the interests of all Macedonian citizens.

"The Council calls for the full implementation of its resolution 1345 (2001) and reaffirms the sovereignty and territorial integrity of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"The Council calls again on all those concerned, including on leaders of ethnic Albanian communities in the region, publicly to condemn violence and ethnic intolerance and to use their influence to secure peace. It reiterates its call to all who have contact with extremist groups to make clear to them that they have no support from any quarter in the international community. The Council condemns the ongoing violence by extremists and calls on all parties to respect the ceasefire. The Council rejects any attempt to use violence including the use of landmines to undermine the Framework Agreement, which has been negotiated by the democratically elected political leadership of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

"The Security Council supports the actions of the President and Government of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia aimed at resolving the crisis, and assuring a stable and democratic future for all of the citizens of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, including through continued dialogue with the full representation of all legitimate political parties to strengthen democracy and preserve the multi-ethnic character of Macedonian society and the stability of the country.

"The Security Council welcomes the efforts of the European Union, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in support of the Framework Agreement. It also calls on

the international community to consider how best to assist the Government of The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in facilitating its full implementation.