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**NEGOTIATING POSITION
ON CHAPTER 27
COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY**

OVERALL POSITION

The Republic of Bulgaria accepts and will apply in full the *acquis* in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) of the European Union.

As a working hypothesis, the Bulgarian Government considers that the Republic of Bulgaria will become a member of the EU on January 1st, 2007.

No derogations or transitional periods in this area will be requested.

ACQUIS ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION

The Republic of Bulgaria shares the common values, principles and objectives of the European Union in the field of Common Foreign and Security Policy, as provided for in the TEU and other instruments that constitute *acquis* in this Chapter. Bulgaria's foreign and security policy is based on the same principles and objectives as the CFSP. The Republic of Bulgaria is prepared, able to participate fully and is actively aligning with the Common Foreign and Security Policy of the European Union.

As a key actor in South East Europe, Bulgaria is an active proponent of regional cooperation. The geo-strategic location of Bulgaria, its own historical experience and good relations with the neighbouring countries, as well as with the countries from adjacent regions will give further scope to the policy of the Union.

Along with the integration to the European Union the Republic of Bulgaria is actively seeking membership in NATO and WEU.

Bulgaria supports the European Council decisions on European security and defence policy as well as the development of EU capacity for autonomous actions in crisis management, based on reliable military forces.

The structures required for Bulgaria's participation in the formulation and implementation of the acquis in the field of CFSP are in place, including the posts of Political Director and of European Correspondent.

Bulgaria has the necessary administrative capacity and organisational experience for monitoring and enforcing negative measures imposed.

Bulgaria is in a position to apply effectively the acquis in the field of diplomatic and consular protection.

Bulgaria has undertaken all necessary technical preparations for the installation of the U3Mail/ACN communication system and has started successfully utilizing it. Participation in the Cortesy System will not pose any problem.

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The Bulgarian Government proposes the negotiations on this chapter to be provisionally closed on the basis of the existing acquis.

The Republic of Bulgaria is aware of the dynamic developments in this field currently underway. Should new elements of the acquis make it necessary, Bulgaria recognizes the possibility of opening supplementary negotiations before the end of the Intergovernmental conference.