COUNCIL COMMON POSITION 2008/843/CFSP

of 10 November 2008

amending and extending Common Position 2007/734/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Uzbekistan

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 15 thereof,

Whereas:

(1) On 13 November 2007, the Council adopted Common Position 2007/734/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against Uzbekistan ([1]).

(2) In its conclusions of 13 October 2008, the Council welcomed the progress achieved in Uzbekistan in the previous year with regard to respect for the rule of law and protection of human rights. It encouraged Uzbekistan to continue progress in the direction of human rights, democratisation and the rule of law, and also welcomed Uzbekistan's commitment to work with the European Union on a range of questions relating to human rights. In that context, the Council decided not to renew the travel restrictions applying to certain individuals referred to in Common Position 2007/734/CFSP.

(3) The Council stated that it was nevertheless concerned about the situation of human rights in a number of subject areas in Uzbekistan and urged the authorities of that country to implement their international obligations fully in that regard. In that context, the Council agreed that the arms embargo imposed in Common Position 2007/734/CFSP should be renewed for a period of 12 months,

HAS ADOPTED THIS COMMON POSITION:

Article 1

Common Position 2007/734/CFSP is hereby extended until 13 November 2009.

Article 2

Articles 3 and 4 of, and Annex II to, Common Position 2007/734/CFSP are hereby repealed.

Article 3

This Common Position shall take effect on the date of its adoption.

Article 4

This Common Position shall be published in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

Done at Brussels, 10 November 2008.

For the Council

The President

B. KOUCHNER

([1]) OJ L 295, 14.11.2007, p. 34.