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**STATEMENT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL
ON RUSSIAN ELECTIONS**

- I see the outcome of the Presidential elections as a further important step towards consolidation of Russia's reform process, and indeed as a victory of democracy in the country.
- NATO is looking forward to cooperate with the new administration in Russia. NATO and Russia have a common responsibility for security and stability in Europe.
- We have made it clear that we want a strong, stable and enduring partnership with Russia, and we have initiated a considerable number of contacts, consultations and programmes to strengthen our partnership.
- In Bosnia, NATO and Russian troops are working together to implement the Peace Agreement. This shows that we can cooperate effectively on issues of European peace and stability.
- I am determined to build upon this experience, and I hope that we will soon be able to make further progress.
- I am looking forward to cooperating with the Russian President and new Russian government in developing the strong framework we want to give to our partnership.

***NATO Information is also available on E-Mail via the following address:
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