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PERMANENT MISSION
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
TO THE INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATIONS
VIENNA

Vienna, 14 June 2010

**Statement of the Albanian Delegation
by Ambassador Gilbert Galanxhi
at the Annual Security Review Conference
14 – 16 June 2010**

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

Albania has aligned itself with the EU statement and fully supports the ideas expressed in this statement, but feeling the responsibility of Albania's bid for chairing the OSCE in 2014, please, allow me Mr. Chairman to express a few opinions in my national capacity.

The Albanian Delegation has closely and with great interest followed the wide range of discussions and proposals, which formally or informally started in the Informal Ministerial in Corfu, and which continued under the baptizing collocation known as 'Corfu Process'. We are all aware of the fact that this 'Process' is an open and very vivid dialogue, with a very intensive exchange of ideas, viewpoints and visions; all these with a sole objective of improving the security architecture throughout the OSCE space and even beyond, always believing in the concept of indivisible, cooperative and comprehensive security.

The Albanian Delegation notices with satisfaction that the lively participation of all member states in this dialogue has already improved the cooperation and understanding amongst them, contributing directly or indirectly towards the strengthening of the Confidence and Security Building Measures (CSBMs), without which the political will to make positive changes would be simply a utopia.

The fact that this dialogue is taking place in OSCE, and not anywhere else, is not a mere coincidence, and should make all of us feel proud of our mission because, we may like it or not, the OSCE is indeed the right forum and the most suitable one for discussing the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian security landscape. Just as the geography of this vast territory is three-dimensional, the security aspect of it is three-dimensional as well. It is precisely this unique approach that makes the OSCE the unique international forum for striking a unique balance and aiming for strategic long-term security, peace and prosperity. We believe that this was exactly what the founding fathers of CSCE had in mind back in 1975. This is the reason why each member state undertook common commitments which are still relevant, although not fully implemented by several member states.

Albania believes that the only constant phenomenon in this world is 'Change'; Albania has drastically changed since the time when it became a member of CSCE, yet we strongly believe that the motive of giving birth to our organization is still there and demanding, but of course needs adjustment and calibration in order to face the traditional and the new challenges. By the way dear friends, 20 years ago all of you in this distinguished hall were considered either as imperialists or revisionists by the Albanian communist government, in simpler words: enemies. But look at today's reality; it is quite different.

Distinguished colleagues and participants,

If we take a look and analyze the numerous proposals made in the form of 'food for thought papers' related to Corfu Process we immediately understand that we have a very safe-and-sound 'take off' from our existing OSCE platform, i.e. the existing commitments, norms, principles, mechanisms and institutions that guide our day-to-day work. Albania hopes and believes that the Interim Report will keep the three-dimensional balance as a Must for having a soft landing towards the end of this year, either in the Ministerial or in the Summit.

Dear friends,

It is in the nature of our organization that we always discuss about problems, about disputes and let's say 'misbehaviours' of one actor or another. But don't forget that the achievements of our organization are often not even mentioned. No one can contradict the fact that the whole OSCE space is much, much safer than 20 years ago when the cold war ended. We all should be proud of such achievement, as at the same time should be realistic enough to see and understand the need for improvement, which in fact is nothing else, but identifying the weak points, old and new, and try to address them with courage and wisdom. Albania believes that in this stream of proposals for improving the security architecture in OSCE space, the Chairmanship will be able to harmonize the intentions and interests of the proposing states or groups of states, so that the role and function of OSCE cannot be misleading and put member states against each-other, but serve to improved security and cooperation for all of us.

Distinguished participants,

In every management theory, Listening is nine times more difficult than Speaking. We should keep in mind this scientific fact, because it makes us better understand not only our concerns, but the concerns of others as well; and I believe this is what the OSCE stands for.

With regards to Kosova, I believe we should make three steps forward, not one step forward and two steps backwards.

Finally Mr. Chairman, allow me to express my deep condolence to the families of the victims in Kirgizstan, as well as to wish a quick recovery to those injured.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.