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

**Statement of the Albanian Delegation by Ambassador Spiro Koçi, Director
General of Security Issues and International Organizations in the MFA of
Albania, at the Annual Security Review Conference 14 -16 June 2010,
Working Session III**

**Thank you Mrs. Moderator,
Dear Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,**

- It was only natural for this year's Security Review Conference to discuss the role and the perspective of arms control and CSBM regimes in Europe, as core elements of the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security.
- Unlike in previous years, there is no doubt that these issues are being dealt with in a far more relaxed environment triggered by the Athens Ministerial decision and thematic discussions held in the framework of the Corfu Process.
- We note with pleasure that following the Corfu discussions, the idea that the web of interlocking and mutually reinforcing arms control and CSBM agreements in Europe requires a fresh look to overcoming the impasse of the CFE regime, is quickly gathering momentum.
- Time is ripe to take stock of several thought-provoking proposals put forward by the participating States with a view to find points of convergence and if possible areas of agreement.
- Although not a state party to the Conventional Armed Forces treaty, Albania considers it crucial for the European Security in the military sphere, and attaches the utmost importance to the restoration of the viability of the regime.
- We would like to recall that during the proceedings of the Istanbul Summit in 1999, Albania commended the signing of the Adapted CFE treaty as an important contribution to the military security and stability of the European continent. We also welcomed the fact that the Adapted version of the CFE was open to voluntary accessions. Since then we have repeatedly expressed our readiness to join the Adapted CFE treaty after it enters into force and negotiate the conditions of our accession.

- In our opinion if efforts to break the deadlock over CFE treaty fail, a new regime could be envisaged and worked out by all the participating states, including those that are not parties to the current regime. For European Security to be truly equal and indivisible, all participating states should benefit from the stabilizing effects of the limitations and transparency provided by such agreements.
- The basic principles for such an agreement should include limitation, reciprocal transparency, verification and host country consent within internationally recognized borders.

Mrs. Moderator,

- Albania believes that the Vienna Document 99 should remain the centerpiece of Europe's confidence and security building measures, whose faithful implementation over the years has greatly contributed to cement a military culture of transparency and cooperation.
- In this framework, Albania sponsored the Austrian food-for-thought paper, which envisages proposals for strengthening and expanding the OSCE's CSMBs with a view to meet new threats and challenges, improve their implementation, adapt the current *acquis*, as well as develop and apply sub-regional measures.
- Without entering into details, it is worth highlighting some elements of this food-for-thought, which in our opinion are tailored to face the regional dimension of the threats and challenges of the 21st century.
- For example, CSBMs should be increasingly applied by the OSCE community for addressing crisis and conflict situations at inter- and intra-state level, as well as in the different phases of conflict. Hence, a targeted review of core mechanism is necessary, including among others information exchange, risk reduction, contacts, notification of specific activities and verification of existing documents on CSBMs.
- Sub-regional CSBMs have proven their effectiveness in the case of provisions contained in the Dayton agreements. Drawing upon this successful experience in the Western Balkans, we believe that new sub-regional CSMBs, tailored to the needs of protracted conflicts in the OSCE area could cover the areas where application is not yet possible.
- These are just a few suggestions that need to be followed up with in-depth discussions and careful consideration in the following months.

Thank you for your kind attention.