



ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE
Mission to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia

OFFICE OF THE HEAD OF MISSION

**Address by H.E. Ambassador Maurizio Massari to the Constitutive Session
of the Coordination Body**

- President, Prime Minister, President of the Coordination Body Mayors, it is an honor and pleasure to witness to today's event here in South Serbia. I am particularly thankful to the President and Prime Minister for their presence.
- OSCE hopes that the new Coordination Body, with full and active participation of Albanian and Serbian representatives will help to accelerate the progress of the policies of stabilization in this region.
- After long discussion there is finally a representative forum where such policies can be discussed in an all- inclusive manner. There is also need however for rapid and concrete implementation of these policies in the different areas, ranging from education, police, judiciary, economy. Important progress has been made in all these areas, but a lot remains to be done in order to create a society of positive and equal opportunities for all the citizens of this region.
- It is our expectation that all political actors, at central and local level, will further commit themselves to make South Serbia an area of multi-ethnic stability and prosperity, which will be able to take full advantage of the ongoing process of Serbia & Montenegro's integration into European and Euro-Atlantic institutions.
- The OSCE and its Mission in Serbia & Montenegro have a long and positive history of engagement in South Serbia. We will continue to actively accompany and support the process of democratic, multiethnic consolidation in South Serbia. We are also realistically aware, however, that such a process in the future will need to rely increasingly on the initiative of local actors in Serbia in order to become truly sustainable.