OSCE

27th Ministerial Council
3-4, December 2020

Statement by

H.E. Mr Azzeddine FARHANE, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to OSCE and International organizations in Vienna
Madame Chair,
Excellencies

1- At the outset, I would also like to express my sincere thanks and congratulations to the Albanian presidency and to H.E. Mr Edi RAMA, for the organization of this successful event from Tirana, despite the particular and unusual circumstances of the COVID 19 pandemic.

2- Our meeting today is a continuity of the important work, started by our honourable organization for more than 45 years with the Helsinki final act, which laid the foundations for close cooperation and paved the way for mutual understanding between participating countries and partner countries.

4- The conference is held this year within the context of the 30th anniversary of the 5+5 Dialogue and the 25th anniversary of the Barcelona process, which come as important events reminding us of the importance of cooperation and partnerships in bringing peace, stability and security.

Madam Chair,

5- The belonging of Morocco to the great Mediterranean family imposes on me the duty to emphasize the immeasurable geostrategic dimension of this region, as well as on its decisive role and its contribution to the regional and international efforts, deployed for the maintenance of peace and stability.

6- Over 45 years, OSCE has been representing an innovative alliance based on dialogue and cooperation with the Mediterranean partners, aiming at the promotion of good neighbourly relations and the increase of mutual confidence between the two shores. This multilateral partnership has been built on **these three following key areas of cooperation**

**Firstly**, the political/security dimension: the Kingdom of Morocco believes that the political dialogue between the OSCE and its partners has improved since the launching of the Helsinki Process and that strengthening security cooperation is required to respond to permanent threats of terrorism, organized crime, irregular migration, human trafficking, through the continuous exchange of information and best practices for the establishment of co-ordinating bodies, that develop comprehensive action plans and national strategies to combat terrorists and criminal groups.

**Secondly:** enhancing cooperation at the environmental level is a necessity to achieve the goal of sustainable and inclusive economy. Regarding the implications of the use of sustainable energy on climate change, Morocco is convinced that the sharing of experience, best practices and the transfer of knowledge on energy issues will contribute
to energy security and that transition to sustainable and renewable energy, such as solar power, which has been used at a large scale in Morocco, is a promising solution for future power generation in the Mediterranean region.

Thirdly: On The regional disputes, Morocco encourages further cooperation within the Maghreb Arab countries in assuming their responsibilities, such as the regional dispute over the Moroccan Sahara and the respect of the UNSC resolutions which call Algeria, due to its responsibility, “to fully cooperate for reaching a political, durable, pragmatic and realistic solution based on compromise”.

Madam Chair,

7- It is worth mentioning that our prospects, in these uncertain times of the COVID pandemic, aim at building stronger regional partnerships to face this global crisis together. We have to transform this crisis in an opportunity of high-level exchange of views, and for generating ideas and exploring concrete ways to enhance relations between the OSCE and its Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation.

8- I would like to conclude by recalling that Morocco remains committed to supporting the OSCE fundamental values of dialogue, mediation and peace. Morocco believes that the Mediterranean region, despite its complexity, presents a unique opportunity for its partners to cooperate more than ever. Accordingly, Morocco is convinced that sub-regional and international cooperation are the key for achieving security, stability and prosperity for the OSCE area and its Mediterranean partners.

Thank you for your attention.