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United States Mission to the OSCE

Statement on Albania

As delivered by Chargé d' Affaires Kyle Scott
to the Permanent Council, Vienna
July 2, 2009

Thank you, Mister Chairman.

The United States congratulates the citizens and government of Albania on the national elections held on June 28, 2009. The citizens of Albania deserve praise for coming out to vote in large numbers and for carrying out peaceful and orderly elections.

The conduct of the election represented real progress from previous elections. The OSCE's preliminary assessment noted that the election itself demonstrated improvements but also identified several violations of campaign regulations and the Electoral Code. We urge the government of Albania to address these shortcomings in order to fully meet OSCE election standards.

We understand that the government of Albania is completing the vote count and tabulation of results. We expect that this process will be conducted in the same orderly manner.

Finally, we would like to congratulate OSCE, including the cooperative efforts between ODIHR and the Parliamentary Assembly, on yet again another well-managed election observation mission.

Thank you, Mister Chairman.