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

S T A T E M E N T

***by Mr. Artan Canaj, Deputy Head of Mission of Albania,
at the 825th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
on the advisory opinion of the ICJ on the legality of Kosova's
independence***

Vienna, 29 July 2010

The Republic of Albania welcomes the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, as the principal arm of the international justice, which clearly confirms that Kosova's declaration of independence is a legal act and in accordance with International Law, as a reconfirmation of the unchangeable right of the citizens of Kosova for freedom and independence, a contribution for peace and stability in Kosova, the region and further.

The Republic of Albania expresses the conviction that the opinion of the ICJ makes way for the acceleration of the recognition process of the independent and sovereign state of Kosova, towards full membership at the United Nations and other international organizations in the near future.

The Republic of Albania re-emphasizes the unconditional support for the independent state of Kosova and its territorial integrity, while praising the tangible progress in the consolidation of independence, the building of democratic institutions, at the full service of all citizens of Kosova.

The Republic of Albania welcomes the statement made by the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Mrs. Ashton, whom on behalf of the EU has welcomed the ruling of the International Court of Justice, emphasizing that now a new phase has started and that all should look towards the future.

Mrs. Ashton's statement guarantees the support of the EU for the European future of Serbia, at the same time guarantees the EU's support for the European future of Kosova, and emphasizes the will of the EU to help both countries to go in this direction.

At the same time, it encourages them to work together in order to further improve the climate of regional cooperation, the lives of the citizens, clearly showing the importance of talks between both countries on concrete and practical matters.

In this context, Albania fully supports the European perspective of both countries and emphasizes the importance of cooperation between Serbia and Kosova as two sovereign States. Such cooperation is hugely important for the whole region and its European perspective.

Thank you Mr.Chairman