

Vienna, 19 October 2010

## OSCE Review Conference

***“The OSCE’s role, including its field presences, in fostering stability and security and enhancing co-operation and integration in the area of its responsibility through co-operation with other international, regional, subregional organizations and initiatives as well as NGOs and the business community”***

### Statement

**Ambassador Dragana Radulović, Permanent Representative of Montenegro to the OSCE, Chairmanship of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP)**

Mr. Chairman,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure and honour to address this forum on behalf of the Chairmanship of the South-East European Cooperation Process (SEECP), which Montenegro took over in June this year and will hold till June 2011.

SEECP, as it is well known, is an initiative whose primary goals are consolidation of stability and security in South East Europe by strengthening good-neighborly relations and political, security and economic cooperation, as well as the cooperation in further building democracy and the rule of law in the region, including the fight against all forms of organized crime. In this way, the countries of the region are able to work together to achieve the shared goal of European and Euro Atlantic integration. The Process represents a political forum utilized by the twelve member countries to identify common challenges in all above areas and define strategies for tackling them successfully. This comprehensive approach to security and development which is shared with the OSCE is very important for our region and its future perspectives, especially having in mind events of the past.

As the Chair of the SEECP, Montenegro has established a well thought-out set of priorities. In the course of our Chairmanship, we will work on

further promoting democratic development and European standards in the region which are the essence of regional cooperation, and a prerequisite of its European and Euro Atlantic integration. In particular, we will promote closer parliamentary cooperation and cooperation in justice and home affairs among the member states. Our goal is to enhance concrete project-oriented cooperation through the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC), the operational body of this Forum that works under the political guidance of the SEECP. In this context, we will further strive to strengthen the role of the RCC, and especially the regional ownership principle i.e. increased responsibility and stronger capacities of the countries of the region for the use of mechanisms for regional cooperation. We will focus on strengthening the institutional dialogue of the Process with the EU so as to promote further progress in European integration of the countries of the SEECP which are still not members of the Union. Having in mind the active engagement of the international community in the region, Montenegro will work on improving the coordination of the SEECP agenda and developing further cooperation with regional and international organizations present in the field, so as to avoid overlapping and duplication. Montenegro will also make efforts to further improve constructive cooperation of relevant institutions in enhancing mechanisms for the efficient regional fight against organized crime and corruption. Last but not least, Montenegro will continue to promote the SEECP both nationally and internationally as the "unified" voice of the region and a reliable partner to the international community.

As the SEECP Chair, Montenegro will also steer the initiative in direction of strengthening public-private partnerships in the Region as instruments for stronger structural reforms and economic development. We will further work on improving trade relations and attracting investments in the Region, improvement of transport infrastructure and cooperation in energy sector, enhancement of regional dialog on environmental protection issues and global warming, as well as prevention of natural disasters and improvement of cooperation in education and science.

Mr. Chairman,

On the project level, the RCC, as the SEECP operational body which is the center for coordination of regional cooperation, has established an excellent record of cooperation with other regional and international

organizations, including the OSCE, and its missions in SEE region. Collaboration between these two organizations was focused on number of topics such as home affairs, police cooperation, education, freedom of the media, parliamentary oversight of intelligence services etc. The input of the OSCE is welcomed by the SEECP membership on regular basis on the SEECP Ministerial meetings and Summits. We are convinced that this cooperation is very valuable for the overall progress of the Region, which is in our shared interest.

In conclusion, I would like to thank you once again for the opportunity to share with you our priorities and inform you about the activities of the SEECP, whose work and objectives are complimentary to the ones of the OSCE. On behalf of Montenegrin Chairmanship, let me reiterate our readiness to continue to work together to bring to life our common vision - long-lasting peace, stability and security, as well as an accelerated economic development of the SEE region.

Thank you.