

**STATEMENT MADE BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF
SERBIA ON THE 10th ANIVERSARY OF THE FLORENCE AGREEMENT
(ALSO ON THE BEHALF OF THE DELEGATIONS OF BOSNIA AND
HERZEGOVINA AND THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA)**

Mr Chairman,

Allow me to inform the distinguished Permanent Council that Bosnia and Herzegovina¹, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serbia² (hereinafter: “the Parties”), the Parties to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, met in Florence on 14th June 2006 under the Chairmanship of the representative of the Republic of Serbia:

- **to mark the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Florence Agreement on 14 June 1996;**
- **to review the fulfilment of obligations under Article IV of the Agreement and the decisions adopted by the Fourth Review Conference held in Vienna on 16-18 June 2004;**
- **to reaffirm the decisions adopted by the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission (SRCC) in this period.**

The Parties want to express their great satisfaction that the implementation of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control has significantly contributed to the main goals of the Dayton Peace Accords, whose implementation has had a substantial impact on peace and stabilization in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The level of the overall relations achieved among the Parties is the best proof, that the launching and implementation of the Agreement were justified, serving as exemplary milestones and and the best guarantees for the future.

The process established under the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control in this period has not only produced results in the establishment of stability and security in the area of its application. Equally important is the fact that it has fully

¹ Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republika Srpska transferred their rights, obligations and responsibilities in implementation of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control to Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Amendments I – VI to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control as of 10 March 2006.

² As of 03 June 2006, Republic of Serbia continues the status of the Party to the Agreement, based on Article 60 of the Constitutional Charter of Serbia and Montenegro.

contributed to strengthening mutual confidence, cooperation and understanding among the Parties.

A particularly encouraging result of the implementation of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control is the strengthening of sub-regional ownership of the whole process.

Having met in Florence on the occasion of marking the 10th anniversary of the signing of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control on 14th June 1996, the Parties - Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Serbia - express their profound gratitude to the Government of the Italian Republic for its warm hospitality and excellent organization, as well as to Brigadier General Claudio Sampaolo, currently Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for Article IV, for his cooperation and assistance in making possible a dignified observance of this important anniversary.

Recalling the work done during the past ten years, the Parties take this opportunity to thank all of those whose guidance, efforts, determination, experience and willpower helped to achieve and implement the Agreement.

In this regard, the Parties wish to thank the Contact Group member countries for their efforts, support and assistance in the process.

Finally, the Parties express their particular gratitude to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe under whose auspices the negotiations were held.

Thank you, Mr Chairman.