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

Statement of the Delegation of Albania

On the Resolution adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe “Investigation of allegations of inhuman treatment of people and illicit trafficking in human organs”

As delivered by Ambassador Spiro Koçi at the
848th meeting of the Permanent Council
27 January 2010

Thank you Mr. Chairman,

I thank the Serbian delegation for raising this issue, which gives me the opportunity to reiterate the position of the Government of Albania.

The report on “Investigation of allegations of inhuman treatment of people and illicit trafficking in human organs” drafted and released by the Swiss rapporteur of the Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE, Dick Marty, has been carefully considered and looked through by the relevant authorities of the Republic of Albania, as well as by the Albanian political factor in the Western Balkans. The content of the report has been met with extreme concern and outrage by the Albanian people due to the following elements:

1. The allegations made in the report are utterly groundless and unfounded;
2. The author has failed to substantiate his allegations by providing any material proof or scientific evidence whatsoever;

3. The author has prejudged the seriousness, the depth and the professionalism of the investigations carried out by UNMIK and the ICTY in 2004;
4. The author disregards the results of the ICTY investigation, which found the allegations regarding trafficking in human organs as groundless and unfounded;
5. Likewise the author disregards Albania's cooperation with the ICTY in the abovementioned instance;
6. The report is biased and offensive to the Albanian people that live in the Western Balkans and beyond. Dick Marty has overstepped and misused his mandate in a clear and unequivocal way. Only after 135 paragraphs he starts dealing what he was mandated with. In the first 135 paragraphs he has mandated himself to analyze the Albanian nation, based on his own, old and known stereotypes.

Mr. Chairman,

Having said that, let me reiterate what has been stated time and again by the President, the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Justice and the office of the General Prosecutor of my country: Albania is strongly and unambiguously committed to cooperate fully and unreservedly with the EULEX, the ICTY and all those who are interested in order to come up with a definitive answer to these allegations.

While reaffirming our firm intention and interest to bring this process to an end, hence definitely closing the chapter related to these allegations, we have serious doubts that this approach is in the interest of Dick Marty, whose rhetoric and statements in the Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE have been distinguished by a marked anti-Albanian sentiment. This is the reason why we strongly appeal to Dick Marty to present his evidence, if he possesses any, to EULEX, ICTY or other relevant judicial agencies.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.