



PC.DEL/89/12  
3 February 2012

ENGLISH only

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE HOLY SEE  
TO THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY  
AND COOPERATION IN EUROPE

**STATEMENT BY MONSIGNOR MICHAEL W. BANACH,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE HOLY SEE,  
AT THE 900<sup>th</sup> MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

**2 FEBRUARY 2012**

**RE: ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

**RATIFICATION AND ACCESSION TO UNITED NATIONS  
CONVENTIONS ON COMBATTING TRANSNATIONAL CRIME**

Mister Chair,

I have the honour to inform the Permanent Council that on January 25, 2012, the Holy See, acting also in the name and on behalf of Vatican City State, ratified the *United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances*, adopted in Vienna on 20 December 1988 and signed by the Holy See on the same date.

Additionally, on January 25, 2012, the Holy See, acting also in the name and on behalf of Vatican City State, acceded to the *International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism*, which was adopted in New York on 9 December 1999 and came into force on 10 April 2002, and also acceded to the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime*, which was adopted in New York on 15 November 2000 and came into force on 23 September 2003.

By ratifying and acceding to these Conventions, the Holy See intends to contribute and to give its moral support to these international instruments. At the same time and in conformity with its own nature, its mission, and the particular character of Vatican City State, the Holy See stresses its commitment to uphold the values of brotherhood, justice and peace between persons and peoples, to protect and to strengthen the primacy of the rule of law and respect for human rights. To this end, the Holy See reaffirms that instruments of

criminal and judicial cooperation, such as those envisioned in the aforementioned Conventions, constitute effective safeguards in the face of criminal activities that jeopardize human dignity and peace.

The texts of the Instruments of Ratification and Accession, as well as of the Reservations and Declarations annexed to them can be found at the following web site:

[http://press.catholica.va/news\\_services/bulletin/news/28701.php?index=28701&po\\_date=26.01.2012&lang=en](http://press.catholica.va/news_services/bulletin/news/28701.php?index=28701&po_date=26.01.2012&lang=en)

Thank you, Mister Chair.