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Statement
by Ambassador Dario Galassi
on Behalf of the
Minister of Foreign and Political Affairs
of the Republic of San Marino

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Mr. Chairman, Honourable Tánaiste Eamon Gilmore, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me to thank the Irish Chairmanship for the excellent work done this year and express my gratitude for the warm and generous hospitality here in Dublin.

For all of us, the OSCE represents an important guarantee of security and embodies the Euro-Atlantic and Euro-Asian willingness to establish a single, free, democratic, comprehensive, cooperative, equal, common and indivisible security community, free of dividing lines, spheres of influence and zones with different levels of security, based on trust and on OSCE principles and commitments, on the rule of law, human rights and fundamental freedoms, economic and environmental cooperation and most of all: peace.

All of the above represents the ideals my Country has been founded upon.

This Organization is also an experimental ground, where new ideas can be expressed and new formulas can be tried.

The great potential of the OSCE in fostering dialogue, preventing conflicts, informing about possible outbreaks and alleviating conflict situations with a view to find durable solutions is unequivocal. The update of its tools and mechanisms constitutes its aim and its challenge.

Its innumerable but quiet and subdued victories are undeniable. The enormous and very profitable work done on the field by the field missions is not to be underestimated but valued as the most important and concrete “tool” of this Organization. The support given to participating States through projects, training programmes, exchange of information and better practices, as well as through an accurate and sometimes complex peer review, negotiation formats in order to resolve protracted conflicts in accordance with international law, with the Charter of the United Nations and the Helsinki Final Act, are all valuable and priceless contributions of this Organization to its constituencies.

San Marino has always been a neutral country and has no army, nevertheless we are interested in promoting disarmament in the fields of conventional weapons, weapons of mass destruction and nuclear weapons. We believe that the exchange of military information and other transparency measures constitute a valid and effective instrument to curb and monitor proliferation.

For this reason, we need to enhance our security dialogue and strengthen arms control agreements and confidence and security building measures, as well as efforts to support non-proliferation regimes, and promote cooperation among participating States, creating an effective contact network.

We are moreover convinced that measures aimed at building confidence among participating States in the economic and environmental dimension are of extreme importance. The projects created by the OSCE in the environmental and economic fields can facilitate dialogue and avoid the insurgence of a conflict, can help to add trust and confidence during negotiations and can alleviate the climate in post-conflict reconstruction.

Until the Second Dimension endeavours will continue to be underestimated within the OSCE, we will be wasting a golden opportunity to improve the situation and attain longed-for and long-lasting peace.

For our country, the Third Dimension is crucial to the achievement of peace and the establishment of a security community. The respect for human rights, the rule of law, fundamental freedoms - including freedom of religion, freedom of association, media freedom on-line and off-line and media pluralism -, the promotion of equal opportunities as well as the fight against intolerance and all kinds of discrimination constitute the essentials of democracy. All participating States have the duty to work towards the full compliance with these OSCE commitments.

The abolition of death penalty remains a priority for us. For this reason, we urge, once again, all countries still providing for capital punishment in their legal systems to abolish it or, at least, to establish a moratorium with a view to its total abolition.

Mr. Chair,

We are firmly engaged in countering all transnational threats. Such challenges can only be addressed through better planned, more pragmatic, transparent and coordinated international cooperation, also at the level of international Organisations.

Good governance is the basis for a flourishing country, society and economy.

San Marino wishes to reiterate its support to the Secretariat, and to OSCE independent institutions like ODIHR, the Representative on Freedom of the Media, the High Commissioner on National Minorities and the Special Representative and Coordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.

We also renew our support to the important activity carried out by the Parliamentary Assembly. In this regard, I am happy to report that San Marino just held its general elections last November 11 and welcomed ODIHR assessment on its preparations. We are ready to fully cooperate with ODIHR and follow up to its recommendations.

San Marino considers that it is essential for this Organization to cooperate with all partners and to offer assistance in all fields of action. We can offer each other support and help in a more and more challenging world. In this context, we are happy to welcome Mongolia as the 57th participating State of OSCE.

Finally, I would like to focus on the need to confer international legal personality and related privileges and immunities on this Organization in order to preserve its independence and integrity and also to cut unnecessary costs. We express the hope that an agreement among delegations will be reached in the next year.

After the Corfu process, the Astana Summit, and the V to V dialogues, we have noted a revitalization of our Organization. We are now ready to embark on the Helsinki + 40 process – launched by the Irish Chairmanship - that will continue to translate the Astana Commemorative Declaration into action, thus making the OSCE more effective in dealing with emerging security threats. The Anniversary may translate into a high level gathering in 2015 in order to reassess our needs and our achievements, establish a multi-year, transparent and inclusive plan to develop a new strategic framework for the Organization in the three dimensions, a plan that includes civil society and other constructive initiatives.

In conclusion, we extend our best wishes to the forthcoming Ukrainian Chairmanship - for which we have great expectations - and to the following Swiss and Serbian chairmanships. A long term rotation scheme for Chairmanships can only assure continuity and better results to our Organization.