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Delegation of San Marino

**STATEMENT BY MR. NICOLA RENZI,  
MINISTER OF FOREIGN AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND JUSTICE  
OF SAN MARINO, AT THE TWENTY-FOURTH MEETING OF THE  
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Excellencies,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

I should like to thank Austria for its generous hospitality and congratulate it most sincerely on the excellent work it has performed in what has not been an easy year. This year again we have witnessed with alarm the continuation of conflict situations and challenges that plague the entire planet: organized crime, corruption and terrorism.

In the face of these crises, our region needs to be able to rely on the OSCE to play a strong role as a platform for frank and genuine dialogue by all participating States. San Marino has always firmly believed that dialogue is the only way to settle conflicts, while avoiding incitement to hatred or recourse to war or violence.

San Marino supports the OSCE mechanisms for restoring confidence and in this way for finding solutions acceptable to all conflict parties with respect for the Helsinki Final Act, the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Mr. Chairperson,

In Palermo in October we discussed the subject of refugees and migrants, which has produced an emergency situation in the transit and destination countries. The OSCE has provided, and will no doubt continue to provide, a useful contribution to managing these flows, in collaboration with other international organizations and the individual States.

On the one hand, we must consider the causes of the migratory flow and ensure adequate control of the persons arriving; but on the other hand we must combat sentiments and manifestations of xenophobia, intolerance and racism by means of information and education.

Child migrants are the first victims of violence, abuse and exploitation. San Marino expresses its support on all international platforms for a commitment by the international community in their favour.

Moreover, it is absolutely essential to prevent organized crime networks and traffickers in human beings from taking advantage of this phenomenon.

Mr. Chairperson,

San Marino has always supported respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the freedom of assembly, and stresses in particular the importance of pluralism and freedom of expression. We support the commitment to gender equality, tolerance and combating all forms of discrimination, and also to combating transnational threats, including terrorism.

Absolute priority should be given to preventing the radicalization of the young. Close co-operation between all participating States and Partner States is essential in this regard.

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like here to urge all participating States to renew their commitment to the careful management of natural resources in our region and to stress the importance of transnational co-operation on the environment. I should also like to express our support for the implementation of the United Nations Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development as an active contribution to peace and comprehensive security.

Mr. Chairperson,

In conclusion, I should like to confirm the support of San Marino to the OSCE structures and all independent institutions, the Parliamentary Assembly and all field missions, which form the backbone of our Organization.

I wish the incoming Italian Chairmanship every success and reiterate our heartfelt gratitude to Austria for its Chairmanship in 2017.