

STATEMENT DELIVERED BY SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO
UNDER THE ITEM «CURRENT ISSUES» AT THE 491st MEETING
OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL, 22 JANUARY 2004

Mr. Chairman,

Please allow me to draw attention of the distinguished members of the Permanent Council on the important legal development in my country that occurred at the end of 2003.

During its last session in December 2003, the Parliament of the State Union Serbia and Montenegro has ratified two extremely important Council of Europe's conventions – Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms and European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

We are convinced that ratification of these conventions and the future participation of Serbia and Montenegro in the Council of Europe's human rights regime established by these two international instruments will additionally solidify respect for democratic principles and human rights, commonly shared values of the Council of Europe and the OSCE, in my country.

Thank You, Mr. Chairman