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

**Statement of the Delegation of Albania,  
In response to the Report by the Head of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo,  
Ambassador Jean-Claude Schlumberger**

**As delivered by the Permanent Representative, Ambassador Spiro Koçi,  
at the 1039<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council, 12 February 2015**

Thank you Mr. Chairperson,

Albania joins others in warmly welcoming Ambassador Schlumberger, Head of OMIK, the OSCE's largest field operation, to the Permanent Council and thanks him for his detailed report and today's presentation.

My Delegation aligns with the EU statement. Following are few remarks in a national capacity.

Albania took good note of the report, which provides a very detailed account of the most important developments in Kosovo and a broad overview of the various Mission's activities, during the reporting period.

2014 was a year of major transitions in Kosovo. Following the 8 June elections Kosovo entered a prolonged political crisis that was overcome thanks to the establishment of a ruling coalition consisting of the 2 major parties with the inclusion of the representatives of the Serbian and other minority communities.

The Government of Albania welcomed this coalition, as a constitutional solution to the crises which restored the legitimacy of Kosovo institutions, and encouraged the opposition to exercise fully the monitoring role it has in every functioning democracy.

The new Government of Kosovo has committed to pursue the EU facilitated dialogue with Serbia. An important agreement on the way to implement the 2013 Brussels Agreement was finalized early this week by two Prime

Ministers on justice and judiciary. Other challenges the new Government of Kosovo has outlined as priorities to be tackled vigorously include economic development, fight against corruption and organized crime, the visa liberalization process and EU integration. Living up to the legitimate expectations of the people of Kosovo will require hard work, unwavering dedication and political cooperation within Kosovo's institutional framework.

Acts of violence are clearly unhelpful and do not serve the stability of the country. Albania has invited all political forces in Kosovo to use the country's institutions and resume dialogue with the newly formed government, as the only way to bring the situation back to normal, and to use all their energies towards the challenges the country faces.

The OSCE Mission in Kosovo, in line with its broad mandate, is well placed to support the efforts of the Government in the key areas of human and community rights, democratization and public safety.

Mr. Chairperson,

To our great regret the authorities of Kosovo are still unable to express their views and provide us with their comments, evaluations, and perspectives about the Head of Mission's report, the Mission's activities, their impact and the level and quality of their cooperation, as well as with first hand information about the developments in the country. This is what we all would have preferred to listen, as for all the other OSCE Missions in the ground. This is still missing. Continuing to discuss about Kosovo without Kosovo, reduces the efficiency of these events and even makes them senseless on certain points. In this context, we kindly invite you, Mr. Chairman, to find ways and means on how to engage Kosovo's representatives in this kind of meetings next time. Their participation in the debate about the developments in Kosovo and the activities of the Mission there is a must.

Indeed, Kosovo should have its seat among us, here in the Permanent Council.

In conclusion, I would like to thank again Ambassador Schlumberger and his team for their dedicated work and wish them every success in the future.

Thank you for the attention.