



REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO

## **STATEMENT**

By

**H.E. Ambassador Daniele D. Bodini**  
**Permanent Representative**

of the  
**Republic of San Marino**

at the General Debate of the  
First Committee

October 7<sup>th</sup>, 2005

New York

Check against delivery

Mr. Chairman,

Let me first congratulate you and the other members of the Bureau on your appointments. You embraced the challenging task to reenergize the work of the First Committee. It is my sincere wish that under your leadership, this Committee will achieve positive and fruitful results.

My delegation would like to express our deepest condolences to the families of the victims of the terrorist attack in Bali as well as to the Government and People of Indonesia.

We share with other countries the sense of frustration that the 2005 NPT review conference was unable to produce a consensus document on substantive issues and that any mention of disarmament and non-proliferation has been omitted in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document. Moreover, the existing conventions are not always implemented as they should be and the ratifications of new ones are unfortunately not moving with the speed we had hoped.

The People and the Government of San Marino, a country that has lived in peace for 1,700 years, without an army, believe strongly that the greatest weapon, that any civilization can have, is the "Power of Reason".

I believe that all of us in this room have something in common: We share a fear that terrorists will one day successfully use weapons of mass destruction; so the only questions are:

where and when. In this regard my delegation welcomes the adoption by the General Assembly of the International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism.

Terrorism is a malignant cancer, not easy to eradicate, therefore, today more than ever, it is imperative to eliminate all WMD without delay. It is unfortunate that this process is moving slowly due to a lingering distrust among some governments coupled with the difficulty of the International Organizations to provide accurate monitoring.

Mr. Chairman,

We, like many other countries, that do not have weapons of mass destruction, have to put our lives and our future in the hands of others. Moreover for a small country like ours, one singular WMD terrorist attack could destroy the entire population.

We believe that one of the most important tasks is to inform and educate the civil society at large of the dangers of our time, especially in those countries where their leaders act aggressively. In fact, it is my belief that a country's own citizens can be the most effective negotiators with their governments, and if properly informed about the potential catastrophic outcome of the use of WMD, they will take a stand with their leaders to preserve their own and their children's lives.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.