STATEMENT

By

H.E. Mr. Daniele D. Bodini
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

Permanent Mission of the Republic of San Marino

GENERAL DEBATE OF THE FIRST COMMITTEE

68TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

10TH October 2013

New York

Please check against delivery
Mr. Chair,

First of all I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as Chair of the First Committee, as well as the members of the Bureau.

San Marino supports the work of this Committee and looks forward to a very productive session.

San Marino believes, like the vast majority of the Countries, in a complete elimination of all nuclear weapons.

Therefore, the revitalization of the Conference on Disarmament and the full implementation of the NPT remain the cornerstones of the nuclear disarmament policy.

Mr. Chairman,

We look with great interest the commitment of the United States of America and of the Russian Federation that together still possess 90% of the world nuclear arsenal, to progressively reduce their inventory.

Their leadership in nuclear disarmament will lead the way, I am sure, for the other nuclear States to do the same.

We applaud, Mr. Chairman, the joint efforts of Russia and the US to eliminate the Syrian chemical weapons and we look forward that under the UN supervision such arsenal will be completely destroyed in a short time.

The Government and the People of San Marino were profoundly shocked by the deadly use of such devastating arms against the civilian population, especially women and children.
The Security Council resolution has been welcomed by the entire international community.

Mr. Chairman,

San Marino is also very concerned about the proliferation of all weapons of mass destruction. A growing proliferation can only increase the probability that these weapons will be acquired by dangerous non-state actors. That’s why we collectively, through the UN efforts, must prevent such tragic scenario.

Mr. Chairman,

San Marino applauds the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty as a giant step of the General Assembly towards the regulation and control of the arms trade.

This treaty will save innumerable lives and reduce tremendously human suffering.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, in today’s environment of an increasing economic, social and political instability throughout the world, it’s of paramount importance that the General Assembly, the Security Council and the Secretariat of the UN increase their action in the dismantling process of the nuclear arsenals and other weapons of mass destruction.

To address our new global challenges we have to show a stronger determination.

San Marino, a true believer of peaceful solution of disputes through dialogue and negotiation, is very pleased by this year achievements in the disarmament field.

Let’s continue along this path. I am confident that this Committee will benefit from this positive momentum and will lead us forward to obtain a further acceleration of our disarmament agenda.

Thank you Mr. Chairman.