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STATEMENT

by

H.E. Ambassador Slobodan Tashovski
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Macedonia
to the United Nations, Head of Delegation

at the

**Review Conference of the Rome Statute of the International Criminal
Court**

Kampala, 1 June, 2010

Mr. President
Mr. Secretary-General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the outset, allow me to begin by expressing our most sincere gratitude to the Government of Uganda for hosting this highly important event, to the two Secretary- General's, current and former for honoring us with their presence and to the President of the Court, Mr. Sang-Hyan Song for his dedication and commitments thus far as President of the ICC.

I would also like to welcome this timely event, the First Review Conference of the Rome Statute as an opportunity to take stock and look ahead in our jointly commitment for which we have all gathered here: the fight against impunity and to bring to justice individuals responsible for the most serious crimes of concern to humanity and to show strong support of the rule of law.

Mr. President,

The Republic of Macedonia aligns itself with the statement delivered by Spain on behalf of the European Union.

The Government of the Republic of Macedonia is deeply committed to the fight against impunity and bringing those perpetrators to justice. In that respect, we consider the ICC as the first permanent treaty that has a special role in confronting genocide and war crimes and for its major role in promoting peace and justice.

Furthermore, the Republic of Macedonia reiterates its support to the Court and its commitment to promote universality and preserve the full implementation of the Rome Statute, thus making the ICC universal in its true sense. In addition, we support all the efforts the Court has done so far in reinforcing the rule of law and strengthening international peace and justice in accordance with the UN Charter.

The Republic of Macedonia has ratified the Statute on 6 March, 2002, and has ensured proper implementation at the national level and fully cooperates with Court, including respect for all Court decisions.

Mr. President,

My delegation has taken note of the amendment proposals to the Rome Statute put forward and which will be under consideration in the upcoming days of the Conference, as well as the stocktaking exercise which is a good opportunity for the international community to strengthen its support for international criminal justice as a whole. Therefore, I would like to reassure you of my delegation's full cooperation in the spirit of consensus.

In conclusion, allow me to express my faith in the successful outcome of this Conference and express our support for the work of the Court. I assure you, that my Government is ready to contribute to the efforts that lie ahead of us.

Thank you Mr. President.