



Mr. Chairman,

Since this is the first time that I take the floor at the Third Committee of the 63rd General Assembly, I wish to express to you and the entire Bureau my warmest congratulations for your election. I believe that with your great experience you will be able to bring the work of this Committee to a successful conclusion.

Mr. Chairman,

As in many European Countries, the path towards gender equality and women has been relatively easy for women in San Marino. Thanks to favourable legislation and economic conditions, we have achieved important

participation levels both in the active and in the passive electorate. As an

Luigi Spadolini, Chief of State of San Marino, the Captain Regent

despite the world is going towards the direction of the recognition of the equality between men and women, many challenges remain, in particular in the field of violence against women

San Marino is particularly concerned by the fact that violence against women and girls remains the most widespread violation of human rights. I firmly believe that it is important to examine all the concrete measures to put an end to this problem and to continue to raise awareness.

For this reason, San Marino, as stated in the event organized last June by this Permanent Mission, *Stop violence against women – Campaigning through regional cooperation*, strongly supports the UN campaign to end violence against women, launched by the Secretary General on the occasion of the opening of the 52nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women. San Marino intends to work in support of this campaign to protect the rights of women, following the commitment undertaken during its Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

With the aim to raise public awareness of an issue too often ignored or underestimated, the Republic of San Marino carried out the campaign to combat violence against women also at the national level and following this initiative, the Parliament of San Marino recently adopted a law – *Prevention and Repression of Violence Against Women and Gender-Based Violence*. It is a decisive and innovative legal instrument for our Country that provides for, inter alia, the introduction of preventive measures addressing violence against women and gender-based violence, as well as the protection of victims during criminal proceedings.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman.