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**MILAN ROĆEN, MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EUROPEAN
INTEGRATIONS OF MONTENEGRO:
(International conference on Afghanistan, Bonn, 5th .12.2011.)**

Dear Chancellor Merkel,
Dear President Karzai,
Dear Secretary General,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I want to greet you on behalf of Montenegro and I want to thank Germany and Afghanistan for an excellent organization of this conference. Montenegro greets organization of this Conference itself and the continuation of discussions concerning the future engagement of international community in Afghanistan.

We have been monitoring with care all the developments regarding the transition process in Afghanistan. We do support the commitments of the NATO Lisbon Summit and the Declaration on enduring partnership with Afghanistan. We hold that the next stage of transition is crucial as the Afghanistan security forces are expected to take over the responsibility to provide security for 50 per cent of population, inhabitants of six Afghan provinces. Strengthening the civil aspects of transition, rule of law and respect for human rights have vital importance now as they are building blocks of the institutional development.

Montenegro has dispatched its fourth rotation army team counting 37 soldiers as a part of Hungarian contingent, under German command. Montenegro has two instructors in the Military-police school in Kabul who are members of the joint team of instructors of the A5+Slovenia. In coordination with partners and in compliance with the needs from the field, Montenegro will try to focus more on this form of engagement in coming future as it will try to remain a part of the process to its end as its capacities allow.

Montenegro's participation in such a colossal activity of international community is symbolic. Nevertheless, it sends a good message across as it illustrates the fact that the small countries stand ready to contribute to preserving common values and strengthening peace and stability in the world.

I thank you for your attention!