

**Security Council Open Debate on Women, Peace, and Security- 19 June 2008  
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**SAN MARINO**

**Mr. Bodini** (San Marino): I would like to thank the Secretary of State of the United States of America, Ms. Condoleezza Rice, and you, Mr. President, for convening this important meeting today.

Over the years, the Republic of San Marino has been a strong supporter of all campaigns against any type of violence against women. As President of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, our Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Fiorenzo Stolfi, spearheaded the Council of Europe campaign against violence against women.

San Marino welcomes the now United Nations initiative on this subject initiated by the Secretary- General. In that context, we recently organized an event here at the United Nations, linking the work of the Council of Europe with the activities of this Organization.

I am happy to report that yesterday our parliament adopted a very comprehensive law against violence against women.

San Marino, a small country without an army, has been able to maintain its independence for more than 17 centuries. We condemn war and violence in general, but, more than anything else, we condemn violence against women and girls. Our women are the pillars of our society and of our families, and our families are the cornerstone of our society. Allowing violence against women destroys the very fabric of our society and all the dreams for our children's peaceful and prosperous future.

We are very proud to be among the sponsors of today's Security Council draft resolution on this very important matter.