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**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR
THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**COMMENTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF SAN MARINO
ON THE SECOND OPINION OF THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE
PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES
IN SAN MARINO
(received on 18 July 2006)**

COMMENTS AND REPLIES BY THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO ON THE SECOND OPINION ADOPTED ON 2nd MARCH 2006 BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES CONCERNING SAN MARINO
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1. Statistical data

As of 31 December 2005, the population on the territory of the Republic of San Marino was equal to 30,871, divided up as follows:

- 26,283 San Marino citizens
- 3,973 Italian citizens (of which 3,277 with residence permit and 696 with stay permit)
- 615 non-Italian foreigners (of which 439 with residence permit and 176 with stay permit), as shown in the attached table.

The great majority of the population is catholic. However, no data on the religious belief of people are available, since any person is free to practice the religious belief of his/her choice and nobody is required to declare his/her faith or atheism (freedom of religion is established in Article 6 of the Declaration on the Citizens' Rights and Fundamental Principles of San Marino Constitutional Order).

Updated statistical data are available on the web site of the Data Processing Centre and Statistics of the Office for Economic Planning of the Republic of San Marino (<http://www.upeceds.sm/index.html>).

2. The notion of “national minority”

With regard to the scope of application of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, both San Marino Government and Parliament, when acceding to said Convention, intended the expression “national minority” as not including foreign citizens residing on the territory of a contracting Party. San Marino Government is still of this opinion. At the time of deposit of the instrument of ratification, no interpretative declaration in this regard was submitted in that the non inclusion of residing foreign citizens in the notion of “national minority” was deemed a certain and indisputable fact. On the basis of this interpretation, it is reiterated that no ethnic, linguistic or religious minorities exist in the Republic of San Marino.

The Government kindly requests the Advisory Committee to provide it with additional information in case of adoption of a different and wider notion of “national minority” including foreign citizens staying on the territory of a contracting Party, also in the absence of an amendment to the Convention introducing a precise definition of “national minority”.

3 Promotion of tolerance in the country

San Marino Government acknowledges the remarks and recommendations formulated by the Advisory Committee in its second opinion, with particular reference to the need for the adoption, in the next future, of measures aimed at preventing episodes of intolerance and facilitating the integration of foreigners in San Marino society.

San Marino authorities wish to thank the Advisory Committee and remain at its disposal for a continued open and constructive dialogue.

Annex 1

Population on the territory by citizenship

Population with residence permit			Population with stay permit		
	Females	Males		Females	Males
REPUBLIC OF SAN MARINO	13 780	12 503	ITALY	323	373
ITALY	1 230	2 047	ALBANIA	10	8
ALBANIA	14	7	ARGENTINA	6	4
ALGERIA		1	BELARUS	2	1
ARGENTINA	26	38	BRAZIL	3	1
AUSTRIA	3	1	BULGARIA	1	
BARBADOS		1	CAMEROON		1
BELGIUM	3	2	COTE D'IVOIRE		1
BELARUS	3		CROATIA	6	3
BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA	1	1	CUBA	2	2
BRAZIL	14	3	ERITREA	2	1
BULGARIA	2	1	FINLAND	1	1
CHILE	2	4	RUSSIA	5	
CHINA	4	3	FRANCE	4	3
COLOMBIA	3		GERMANY	1	
COTE D'IVOIRE		1	UNITED KINGDOM		1
CROATIA	9	7	ISRAEL	1	
CUBA	5	4	SERBIA	1	
EGYPT	1	3	LEBANON		1
RUSSIA	14	1	MOROCCO	4	3
FINLAND	3		MEXICO	1	1
FRANCE	11	11	NIGERIA	1	
GERMANY	3	4	NETHERLANDS	1	1
JAPAN	1		POLAND	3	3
UNITED KINGDOM	2	1	CONGO (KINSHASA)	1	1
GUATEMALA	1		MOLDOVA	8	1
GREECE		1	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	2	
IRAN	5	4	ROMANIA	18	14
INDIA		1	SLOVAKIA	2	
IRELAND	1		SWEDEN	1	
SERBIA	3	2	SWITZERLAND	1	
LATVIA		2	TURKEY	1	
LITHUANIA	1	1	UKRAINE	30	2
LUXEMBOURG	1		HUNGARY	1	1
MADAGASCAR	1		ZAMBIA		1
MOROCCO	4	4			
MEXICO	3		Total	443	429
NIGERIA	2				872
NORWAY	1				
PANAMA		1			
PERU	2				
POLAND	19	4			
PORTUGAL	2				
CONGO (KINSHASA)		3			

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	3	
SLOVAKIA	6	1
CZECH REPUBLIC	5	
MOLDOVA	2	
ROMANIA	56	10
SENEGAL		1
SLOVENIA	1	
SPAIN	2	
SWEDEN	1	1
THAILAND	1	
TUNISIA	1	2
TURKEY		2
U.S.A.	5	13
UKRAINE	31	1
HUNGARY	1	1
VIETNAM	3	2
Total	15 298	14 701