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Mr. President, dear colleagues,

The time has come to say thank you.

But first of all I would like to thank -- on behalf of all of us -- our host, the Parliament, and in particular, Mrs. Muradova, the Chair of the Azeri OSCE PA Delegation, for this meeting. Thank you very much, deep from our hearts.

We know that the arrangements have been excellent and the hospitality extremely generous. We have had very good and important debates on topical issues, and made some important decisions. Now we know -- all of us we know -- that we are on our way to strengthening the parliamentary dimension of the OSCE.

I thank you, Members of the Assembly, for the confidence you've shown in me in the election.

But especially I want to thank you, Ranko, my friend, for a good and tough competition. May I say that your term is over, but your *time* is not over. I admire your very strong commitment, your energy, your contribution, and we also need you very much in the future. Thank you, Ranko, very much indeed.

The agenda of the Assembly is very challenging. The security environment in Europe is changing. It is important that our Parliamentary Assembly can make constructive contributions -- contributions which will improve security on our continent. One of the priorities during the coming years will be to work on a constructive parliamentary contribution for the Helsinki +40 process, particularly in co-operation with the Swiss Chairmanship this year and next year with Serbia. We need more dialogue and more transparency in our work. Also, more co-operation between the Parliamentary Assembly and the executive branch of the OSCE is essential. These are some of the goals for the coming years, and I look forward to co-operating with you all -- with the three General Committees, with the working groups and the special representatives.

We must also find a way to include all national Delegations -- and especially I want to pay attention in our work to those Delegations from smaller member states. Our work is a collective effort. We are an organization of security and cooperation, not confrontation.

I very much welcome the ideas and the insights of different political, ideological, religious, and cultural approaches.

Next year we will meet in Helsinki, the birthplace of our family. It is my wish and personal ambition to recall “the spirit of Helsinki.” And over all, it is our responsibility to turn our words into concrete action.

So, friends, you welcome to Helsinki in 2015 or even before.

Thank you very much!