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ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT
ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Periodic reports submitted by States parties under articles 16 and 17 of the Covenant

Combined initial and second, third and fourth periodic reports of
SAN MARINO* ** ***

[6 November 2006]

* The initial report of San Marino was due on 30 June 1990, the second periodic due on 30 June 1995, the third on 30 June 2000 and the fourth on 30 June 2005 respectively and submitted as the combined initial, second third and fourth periodic report on 6 November 2006.

** The information submitted in accordance with the consolidated guidelines concerning the initial part of reports of States parties is contained in the core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.119).

*** In accordance with the information transmitted to States parties regarding the processing of reports, the present document was not formally edited before being sent to the United Nations translation services.

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267. There are no limitations to the right of everyone to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress and its applications. In this context, San Marino Declaration on the Citizens' Rights guarantees, in general, freedom of thought.

268. In January 2005, the Republic of San Marino joined EUREKA, an organisation established in 1985 to support and promote economy and research by offering multidisciplinary collaboration projects. This Network includes now 35 Countries plus the European Union. San Marino has already started to collaborate on various projects, dived up according to their thematic area, which concern all sectors of the new global economy.

269. Since its establishment, EUREKA and its Countries have always pursued the same objective, that is to enhance European economic and industrial productivity and competitiveness on the global civil market.

270. Always with a view to enabling everyone to enjoy as much as possible the benefits of scientific and research progress, San Marino Parliament has recently passed a law on the promotion of industrial research activity, precompetitive development, innovation and technological transfer.

271. The objective of this law is to improve the sector, so that it will become in the future a strategic element for the Country's economy, and to regulate all interventions in support of research, innovation and technological transfer. In particular, it provides for the establishment of a fund to promote research, the drafting of a 5-year research programme and the establishment of a Committee of Experts with the purpose of monitoring compliance of the projects with the requirements for the granting of State subsidies.

272. Moreover, Article 37 of the Law approving the State Budget for the financial year 2006 and the Pluriennial Budget 2006/2008 (Law No. 179 of 13 December 2005) provides for incentives to scientific research in favour of economic operators established as a company for the purpose of supporting research activities, innovation and technological transfer.

273. With regard to measures aimed at the preservation of mankind's natural heritage and at promoting a healthy and pure environment, Title III of the Single Text of Town Planning and Building Laws (Law No. 87 of 19 July 1995) expressly provides for the protection of natural environment and for environmental impact assessment. Articles 54 through 87 specifically refer to the Environmental Protection Commission and to the regulation of water drains, solid and liquid wastes, aerial emissions and emissions from heating systems and transport means.

274. By virtue of Article 1, paragraph 1, of San Marino Declaration on the Citizens' Rights: *"The Republic of San Marino receives generally recognised rules of international law as integral part of its constitutional order, to which it shall conform its acts and conduct. It recognises the provisions set forth in the international declarations on human rights and fundamental freedoms."*

275. Moreover, Article 5 of the same Declaration stipulates that human rights shall be inviolable.

276. In addition, with Decree No. 45 of 26 February 1998, the Republic of San Marino ratified the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine: Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine. The purpose of this Convention is the achievement of a greater unity between the members of the Council of Europe in order to protect fundamental freedoms in the light of the rapid developments of biology and medicine and in consideration of the high risk of misuse of scientific discoveries.