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ARRIVAL STATEMENT
HIS EXCELLENCY GIOVANNI LEONE

MR. PRESIDENT AND LADIES AND GENTLEMEN:

MR. PRESIDENT, I WELCOME YOU TO THE UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA. I WELCOME YOU ON BEHALF OF ALL AMERICANS, WHO
ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE GIFTS OF GENIUS AND BEAUTY YOUR COUNTRY
HAS GIVEN TO ALL MANKIND. ON BEHALF OF THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS
WHO ARE PROUD TO CLAIM ITALY AS THEIR ANCESTRAL HOMELAND, I
WELCOME YOU WITH A SPECIAL FAMILY AFFECTION.

YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, ARE AN HONORED LEADER OF ONE
OF AMERICA'S TRUEST ALLIES. IN THE PAST THREE DECADES,
AMERICA HAS BEEN PROUD TO HAVE BEEN ASSOCIATED WITH ITALY
IN YOUR SUCCESSFUL EFFORTS TO BUILD A DEMOCRATIC INDUSTRIAL
SOCIETY.

I ASSURE YOU OF AMERICA'S CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO
A STABLE, FREE AND DEMOCRATIC ITALY. I ALSO WANT TO RESTATE
OUR INTENTION TO WORK CLOSELY WITH YOUR COUNTRY IN STRENGTHENING
ATLANTIC COOPERATION, AND ATLANTIC SECURITY.

THIS IS A MOMENT OF CHALLENGE FOR THE WESTERN WORLD.

WE FACE AN UNPRECEDENTED NEW AGENDA OF COMMON PROBLEMS. WE
HAVE STOOD TOGETHER FOR 30 YEARS. TOGETHER WE HAVE BROUGHT
PEACE AND STABILITY AND PROGRESS IN EUROPE AND IN THE WORLD TO A
DEGREE UNDREAMED OF WHEN WE BEGAN. TOGETHER, WITH THE SAME
SPIRIT AND COOPERATION WHICH HAS ACCOMPLISHED SO MUCH IN THE
PAST, WE WILL MEET AND CONQUER THE PROBLEMS OF THE PRESENT.

THE ROAD WILL NOT BE EASY. THE PROBLEMS OF INFLATION AND ASSURING
EQUITABLE ACCESS TO FAIRLY PRICED RESOURCES, FOR EXAMPLE,
THREATEN THE STABILITY OF EVERY ECONOMY AND THE WELFARE OF
PEOPLE IN DEVELOPED AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ALIKE. THE VERY
NATURE OF THESE PROBLEMS DEFIES SOLUTION BY UNILATERAL MEASURES.

IT IS IN RECOGNITION OF THE FACT OF OUR INTERDEPENDENCE IN
MEETING THESE CHALLENGES AND WITH RESOLVE TO DO OUR PART
THAT I PLEDGE THE COOPERATION OF MY GOVERNMENT WITH YOUR
OWN AND ALL NATIONS IN THIS COMMON ENTERPRISE.

MR. PRESIDENT, I LOOK FORWARD TO OUR DISCUSSIONS
OVER THESE NEXT TWO DAYS. I AM CONFIDENT THAT OUR TALKS
WILL CONTRIBUTE TO OUR MUTUAL EFFORTS TO SECURE PEACE FOR
ALL NATIONS OF THE WORLD. THERE IS NO DOUBT THAT THEY WILL
SERVE TO REINFORCE THE TIES THAT HAVE BOUND US IN FRIENDSHIP
OVER THE YEARS.

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