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International Lesbian

and Gay Associati

Prime Minister Mr. Igor Luksic Government of Montenegro E-mail: igor.luksic@gov.me

Dear Prime Minister:

I am the female Co-Secretary General of the International Lesbian, Bisexual, Gay, Trans and Intersex Association, a global network of about 650 organizations from more than 90 countries. We seek for the decriminalization of sexual orientation and gender identity all over the world and we fight for equal rights for LGBTI.

We commend the Government of Montenegro for finally passing an anti-discrimination law last year that included sexual orientation, an important step on the path to European integration and the decision of amending the Joint Declaration on sexual orientation and gender identity last week at the UN Human Rights Council.

We have followed up the formation of LGBT Forum Progress as the space that might contribute definitively to the advance of the rights of sexual minorities. We celebrate their decision in organizing Podgorica's first Pride parade and with this Pride to involve Montenegro in the international loop for the visibility and respect of LGBTI.

Such parades are a vital part of the international LGBT rights movement. The right to hold such parades is well recognized under both European and international human rights law as part of the rights of all people to freedom of association, freedom of expression and the right to equality.

We urge your government to guarantee the successful development of this first PRIDE in Podgorica, and with this follow the example of governments around the world.

Yours truly.

Gloria Careaga Pérez Co-Secretary General

cc. Mr. Ivana Pajevic, Chief of Staff of the Prime Minister, ivana.pajevic@gsv.gov.me Mr. Ferhat Dinosha, Minister for Human and Minority Rights, blanka.marovicr@mmp.gov.me Zdravko Cimbaljevic, Executive Director of LGBT Forum Progress, info@lgbtprogres.me

The International Lesbian and Gay Association is a network of over 650 groups from 90 countries fighting since 1978 for equal human rights for leshian gay bisevual and lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

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