

Closing Remarks by Mr Samir Saran, Vice President, Observer Research Foundation

Mr Samir Saran: Thank you very much Mr Minister. It is now my honour and privilege to propose a vote of thanks. While it would be impossible to try and capture your...and then your responses to all the questions posed to you, four ideas I think are really important in the times we live. The first of course was when you define this particular moment as an era of the individual, an era when State has lost monopoly over execution of power and consequently an era where the individual is a security actor and therefore we need to rethink on how we engage with individuals, how we engage as individuals. Following from that of course you did emphasize on the issue of radicalization and forced us to think on how to grapple with the force that has the disturbing ability to motivate a young kid to wear a suicide vest. We cannot neglect foreign forces and we cannot neglect the sense of humiliation that might drive this action. Following from that of course Sir you emphasized on the failure of the nation-state in the region we reside in, failure of democratic choice for people to express their political will in many places that leads to some of the challenges we face today. You have today coined a new phrase that many of us will ponder over, global insecurity as a public bad, and therefore if global insecurity is a public bad, is the format of alliances a solution, you have questioned or rather you have mentioned that alliances have a counterproductive impact where they create the divisions even as they try to remove the problems and the conflicts and contests. Therefore, Sir, the challenge that many of us are today going to have to respond to is to remove the us versus them and how do we create a collective us so that we can have a security network that you had mentioned one and half years ago and we can respond to the global insecurity as a public bad together.

Thank you for joining us this afternoon, you have bestowed a great honour on ORF and I would like to request all my friends in the audience to join me in applauding the Minister.