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**DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA**  
**ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

**Statement**

**On the Annual Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality and Report by the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairmanship-in-Office on Gender Issues, Amb. Melanne Vermeer**

**as delivered by the Delegation of Armenia at the 1157th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council**

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to thank Secretary General and Special Representative of the Chairman in Office for presenting Reports related to the activities of our organization on gender issues. The Annual Progress Report establishes comprehensive account of all gender mainstreamed activities in all three dimensions.

We believe that Annual Progress Report as well as Actions Plans put forward by different OSCE actors should proceed from OSCE commitments particularly OSCE 2004 Action Plan on the Promotion of Gender Equality.

We took note that the Progress Report refers to number of gender related projects and initiatives undertaken by the Government of Armenia and OSCE Office in Yerevan particularly in the economic and environmental dimension.

In this regard, we particularly value creation of women's resource centers and their involvement in local policy discussions. Armenia looks forward to the OSCE continued engagement in these projects.

Armenia pursues gender equality and perspective in its agenda of human rights reforms in armed forces and law enforcement agencies. In doing so, Armenia makes important steps towards implementation of the UN SC resolution 1325.

Involvement of women residing in conflict areas, their representation and participation in various processes whether reconciliation, confidence building measures or de-escalation, is indispensable part of Women, Peace and Security agenda. OSCE and its various actors dealing with gender perspective in conflict situations can bring an added value if they center their projects and initiatives on the needs of women residing in conflict areas. Ignoring this reality will neither be helpful nor effective.

I thank you.