PC.DEL/442/11 18 May 2011

ENGLISH only



## **ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՊԱՏՎԻՐԱԿՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ** DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

Statement on recent developments in Armenia delivered by Ambassador Ashot Hovakimian at the 861<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council 12 May 2011

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to thank the European Union and the United States for their statements and their interest on recent developments in Armenia.

The necessity to establish "a well-functioning democracy, a more vibrant political dialogue, and persistent policy of embedding European standards into all areas of our political, social and economic lives" was stated by the President of Armenia in his speech of December 18, 2010.

Two months ago here at the Permanent Council, my Minister explicitly stressed that Armenia is determined to take necessary steps to strengthen democracy and rule of law, ensure better protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms of our citizens. These are not mere good intentions. The Armenian authorities clearly demonstrated their commitment to continue political reforms which has been manifested by recent developments as well.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.