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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANVAR AZIMOV,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1 July 2010

Regarding the report by the Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan

Mr. Chairperson,

We warmly welcome Mr. Sergey Kapinos, Head of the OSCE Office in Yerevan, to the Permanent Council. We have carefully familiarized ourselves with his detailed report, and we are grateful for his thoughts and for the fruitful dialogue with the Armenian authorities at various levels, which is providing good practical benefits.

We note that in its project activities the Yerevan office is following the provisions of its mandate issued by the Permanent Council, actively co-operating with the host country and mobilizing, when necessary, the resources of international organizations operating in the region, notably the specialized agencies of the United Nations. The Office has established and is effectively developing working contacts with representatives of the State apparatus and the public. It is important to continue this kind of multidisciplinary work, taking into account the wishes of the Armenian Government and ensuring that a careful balance is maintained between the three "baskets".

We believe there is still a need to assist Armenia in improving various spheres of the country's legislative basis, protecting the environment, carrying out socio-economic reforms, including encouragement for the development of small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as combating corruption and consolidating democratic principles in the work of the law enforcement agencies.

In view of the temporary nature of the work of all the OSCE field operations, it would make sense for their reports to involve a comparative analysis of the functional duties of the mission. It would be useful to inform the participating States on a regular basis which provisions of the existing mandate have in its view been implemented and which are still relevant so that possible improvements can be made in the Office's work.

In conclusion, we should like to wish Sergey Petrovich and his staff continued success in carrying out the tasks assigned to them under their mandate in the interests of the prosperity of our friends, the people of Armenia.

Thank you for your attention.