

PC.DEL/552/15

5 May 2015

ENGLISH

Original: FRENCH

Delegation of France

**STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MAXIME LEFEBVRE,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE OSCE, AT  
THE 1049th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

30 April 2015

**On the commemoration of the Armenian genocide**

Mr. Chairperson,

The President of France participated in the commemoration ceremonies of 24 April in Yerevan, not only to pay tribute to the victims of the genocide, but also to send a message of reconciliation and hope for the future. I quote from his statement: "To be in Yerevan today is also to promote healing, reconciliation and closure, for memory must not be used to divide, but to unite."

The President of France recalled his desire to see the Turkish-Armenian border reopened, and our support for a settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict. On 25 April, the French President also travelled to Baku at the invitation of Azerbaijani President Aliyev.