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

**Statement**

**In Response to the Statement of the Minsk Group Co-Chair Countries  
delivered by Ambassador Arman Kirakossian at the 1021st Meeting of the  
OSCE Permanent Council  
October 30, 2014**

Mr. Chairman,

Armenia would like to extend gratitude to the President of the French Republic, Francois Hollande for the organization of the presidential level meeting on Nagorno Karabakh conflict.

It is the third meeting on the settlement of the Nagorno Karabakh conflict at the level of Presidents in the last three months, which shows the dedication and resoluteness of the Minsk Group Co-Chair countries and the personal efforts of their Presidents to continue the process of peaceful resolution of the conflict, which provide opportunity for the parties to better perceive each other's approaches and bring closer their positions.

Despite the continuing disagreement on several aspects of the settlement and the way to move forward in the negotiation process, the Armenian side assessed the meeting as useful, open and constructive.

The Armenian side welcomes the proposal of the French President, also shared by the other Co-Chair countries on the implementation of confidence building measures. We firmly believe that the practical implementation of confidence building measures, including the withdrawal of snipers, creation of mechanism on investigation of incidents along the Line of Contact and strengthening of the ceasefire regime can contribute to the consolidation of cease-fire and create favorable conditions for negotiation process. Progress in political settlement requires a necessary level of trust and confidence. We are pleased to note that our approaches in this regard are shared by the Co-Chair countries.

We are hopeful that a speedy adoption of the Basic Principles as it is agreed in the Joint Declaration adopted by the Presidents of Armenia, Russian Federation and Azerbaijan on January 2012 in Sochi, will lay the foundation for the negotiations on the peace agreement.

The high level meeting in Paris reaffirmed once again the high relevance and efficiency of the Minsk Group Co-Chairs' format. It also reaffirmed at the highest level that there is no alternative to the negotiations, which will bring us to a peaceful settlement and a long lasting peace and stability in the region.

Thank You.