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Delegation of Armenia

**STATEMENT BY
THE PERMANENT DELEGATION OF ARMENIA TO THE OSCE
AT THE 1306th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

18 March 2021

On the occasion of International Francophonie Day and French Language and Francophonie Week

Madam Chairperson,

I should like to thank the Permanent Representative of France for her statement. In endorsing her remarks, I should like to say a few words about the significance of International Francophonie Day, which is celebrated on 20 March, and about Armenia's initiatives to mark the Francophonie during the month dedicated to the French language and the Francophonie.

The promotion of linguistic and cultural diversity is one of the francophone family's key objectives. We consider the French language, spoken by more than 300 million people, to be one of the pillars of this diversity.

In Armenia, the programme of educational and cultural events dedicated to the 2021 edition of Francophonie Day will take place from 20 March to 20 April, and will thus contribute to the extension of the period of international francophone mobilization to celebrate the French language and the values of the Francophonie – an integral part of universal values.

As every year, a variety of educational and cultural events, including film screenings, theatre performances, exhibitions, concerts and contests, will be organized over a period of one month in Yerevan and in the regions of Armenia.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.