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

**Statement on the Elections in Ukraine
delivered by Ambassador Jivan Tabibian
at the 531st Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
November 4, 2004**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

My Delegation would have assumed after listening with careful attention to the Statement by Ukraine that this discussion would occur after the second phase of their elections at which time we may or may not have something to add to what would be said.

Let me simply say that even at this early stage what I last time described as a certain phenomenon, and I hope I don't have to refer to this many more times, is the '*Rashomon*' phenomenon; it is well and alive in our midst.

However, my country was a party in the CIS observation mission. We can say that at least at some level the gap between the CIS assessment and the ODIHR assessment of the Ukrainian elections is somewhat diminished. Being part of these same organizations we welcome that trend.

On the other hand, when we hear phrases like "unprecedented transparency, unprecedented anywhere in the OSCE area" as characterized by the Ukrainian Delegation, my Delegation will withhold judgment until after the conclusion of the next round of the Ukrainian Presidential elections.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.