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

**Statement**  
**in response to OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator on Trafficking in Human**  
**Beings, Ms. Madina Jarbussynova**  
**delivered by Ambassador Arman Kirakossian at the 1124th Meeting of the OSCE**  
**Permanent Council**  
**December 15, 2016**

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to warmly welcome Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova and thank her for outlining her activities for the past period.

We would like to reiterate our support to the activities of the OSCE Special Representative and Co-ordinator for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings.

Combating trafficking in human beings is a priority for Armenia. We have made considerable progress in this regard, which was acknowledged by the international community, academia and civil society.

We would like to thank Ambassador Jarbussynova for her visit to Armenia, which was an important opportunity to review implementation by Armenia of its OSCE commitments in the field of trafficking and exchange views on further streamlining of the activities of relevant government agencies.

In the course of her visit Special Representative had the opportunity to interact both with government relevant representatives and civil society organizations dealing with the fight against trafficking in human beings. We are pleased that Ambassador Jarbussynova positively assessed the initiatives of the Government to address the challenges in this field and also acknowledged the political will of the authorities to cooperate with the OSCE Office in Yerevan.

We also thank the distinguished Special Representative for her specific attention to the needs of 20 thousand refugees from Syria. We highly appreciate her assessment that the Armenian authorities provide various protection and assistance mechanisms to the refugees from Syria.

In conclusion, we would like to wish Ambassador Madina Jarbussynova all success in her future endeavours.

Thank you.