



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Ministerial Council**

MC.DEC/2/16
27 July 2016

Original: ENGLISH

**DECISION No. 2/16
OSCE CHAIRMANSHIP IN THE YEAR 2018**

The Ministerial Council,

Decides that Italy will exercise the function of the OSCE Chairmanship in the year 2018.

MC.DEC/2/16
27 July 2016
Attachment 1

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Azerbaijan:

“Mr. Chairperson,

The Republic of Azerbaijan welcomed the decision of the Government of the Italian Republic to chair the OSCE in 2018 and views this as a demonstration of Italy’s willingness to contribute to realization of the mission of the Organization to enhance peace and security in its area based on Principles Guiding Inter-State Relations enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act.

We took note of the position of Italy as incoming Chairmanship-in-Office of the OSCE in 2018 with regard to resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. As a candidate for this responsible post, Italy held consultations with Azerbaijan and pledged to consult with Azerbaijan on matters related to the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia. We expect implementation of these commitments.

Italy committed to support the resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict in full compliance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, OSCE decisions and documents, in particular on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan within its internationally recognized borders, as it was endorsed in the Joint Declaration on Strategic Partnership between the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Italian Republic.

The statement we just heard runs counter to the commitments and understandings reached at bilateral level. Azerbaijan will support the efforts of incoming Italian OSCE Chairmanship on peaceful resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict in accordance with the relevant provisions of the above-mentioned joint declaration.

We ask this statement be attached to the journal of the day and the decision adopted.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”

MC.DEC/2/16
27 July 2016
Attachment 2

Original: ENGLISH

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Armenia:

“The Republic of Armenia would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure and asks to attach it to the ministerial decision on the OSCE Chairmanship in the year 2018.

The Republic of Armenia supported assumption of Chairmanship of the OSCE by Italy in 2018 with an understanding that Italy throughout its Chairmanship will fully adhere to the OSCE commitments in regard to the peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict through extending full support to the efforts of the agreed format of the Minsk Group Co-Chairs aimed at negotiated and peaceful solution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, based on the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, particularly those pertaining to the non-use of force, territorial integrity, and equal rights and self-determination of peoples.

In this regard the delegation of Armenia took note of the statement delivered by the Italian delegation, which also confirmed the supportive position of Italy with regard to the latest agreements on strengthening the capacities of the Office of the Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office and creating of an OSCE mechanism to investigate ceasefire violations along the line of contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and the Armenian-Azerbaijani State border.”