

**Remarks by the Permanent Representative of Turkey
on Developments in Azerbaijan
Permanent Council, 1 December 2005**

Mr. Chairman,

The Council will recall that we had joined the statement by the EU issued in the aftermath of the elections in Azerbaijan. Further, we had the opportunity to convey our national views regarding the conduct of elections through bilateral channels subsequently. Such communication is ongoing.

Events that occurred on November 26 in Bakü are a cause for concern for us. They demonstrate that Azerbaijan is not immune to challenges posed to progress in its quest for democracy, exercise of rights and freedoms.

We call on all sides to avoid violence and act with utmost restraint.

We shall continue to monitor developments closely in the expectation that the commitments expressly stated by the leadership of Azerbaijan will be reaffirmed and fulfilled.