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

**Statement**

**On the Escalation of Situation along the Line of Contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and the Armenia-Azerbaijan border  
delivered by the Permanent Delegation of the Republic of Armenia at the 1067th  
Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council  
September 10, 2015**

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to draw the attention of the Permanent Council to the recent escalation of situation along the Line of Contact between Nagorno Karabakh and Azerbaijan and the Armenia-Azerbaijan border, which resulted in the loss of lives and sharply raised the tension.

An alarming development is that the Azerbaijani military has started to use heavy weapons, including 120 mm. mortars, as well as 107 mm. rockets. The Azerbaijani military units continue to deliberately target border villages and civilians. Two civilians were wounded in recent days.

The escalation of situation along the Line of Contact was accompanied by large-scale military exercises in close vicinity to the Line of Contact and the border of Armenia with participation of 65 000 military, including 6000 reservists and hundreds of battle tanks, ACVs, artillery units and air forces.

We are deeply concerned and strongly condemn these provocative actions, which fuel military tension in the region. In undertaking these actions the Azerbaijani side once again demonstrated its attitude towards the calls of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs addressed to the official Baku to strictly observe the ceasefire and refrain from steps escalating the situation.

The military provocations go hand in hand with the continuous efforts of Azerbaijan to reduce the OSCE presence in the region in general and the conflict zone in particular, which undermines the early warning capacity of the Organization and serves to facilitate gradual transition from ceasefire regime to the state of large-scale hostilities.

Armenia calls on Azerbaijani side to observe its commitments to a peaceful resolution of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and refrain from the actions that will further escalate

situation on the Line of Contact between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan and Armenia-Azerbaijan border.

By rejecting the proposals of the international community on the establishment of a mechanism of investigation of incidents, Azerbaijan is assuming the whole responsibility for the ceasefire violations.

We reiterate our firm position that the clear and unequivocal commitment to the ceasefire and confidence building by the parties concerned is the only way for creating conducive environment for the peace process.

Thank You.