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

Statement

In response to the statement of Ambassador Mr. Victor Tvircun, the Secretary General of the Organization of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation delivered by Ambassador Arman Kirakossian at the 941st Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council February 14, 2013

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to warmly welcome Ambassador Mr. Victor Tvircun and thank him for his comprehensive review covering main activities of the BSEC and the cooperation with the OSCE.

There is a great deal of similarity between our two organizations and we subscribe to this view as an insider to the processes taking place in the OSCE and the BSEC. One of the major advantages of both organizations is the ability to ensure interactions between those members who are divided over essential bilateral differences while managing to make a positive joint contribution towards international and regional cooperation.

The OSCE and the BSEC, who are created as consensus run and inclusive regional organizations, are built on the underlining principles of the international cooperation. Among those important principles is the commitment of its members to cooperate rather than engage in confrontation also through refraining from disadvantaging each other politically and economically.

In this regard, we value inclusive regional projects including those in the area of transport cooperation. In our view, aside from embarking on new initiatives here we need to fully utilize and maintain existing transport links and work towards overcoming divergent views imposed on us by purely political agendas transgress the very meaning of regional cooperation.

On the second half of 2013 Armenia will assume the BSEC Chairmanship. We are determined to advance the economic cooperation in the region through implementation of the landmark BSEC document “on BSEC Economic Agenda: Towards an Enhanced BSEC Partnership”. In this realm the cooperation with the OSCE will be priority for the Armenian Chairmanship.

Finally, we would like to wish every success to the Ambassador Tvircun and express our readiness to closely cooperate with him in advancing the cause of regional cooperation.

Thank you.