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PC.DEL/1075/13  
23 December 2013

ENGLISH only

**STATEMENT**  
**BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN**  
**978<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Permanent Council**  
**19 December, 2013**

*in response to H.E. Ambassador Halil Akıncı, Secretary General of the  
Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and  
H.E. Mr. Jandos Asanov, Secretary General of  
the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TURK PA)*

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to warmly welcome Ambassador Halil Akıncı, Secretary General of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States and Mr. Jandos Asanov, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic Speaking Countries (TURK PA) to the Permanent Council meeting and thank you both for comprehensive and interesting presentations on activities of the Cooperation Council and TURK PA.

I express our gratitude to the Ukrainian Chairmanship for inviting Turkic Council and TURK PA to the Permanent Council meeting.

I am impressed with the scope activities both organizations have carried out to institutionalize the cooperation among the Turkic states, especially in those areas that are relevant to the OSCE comprehensive approach to security.

Azerbaijan currently holds the Chairmanship in the Cooperation Council and I would like to elaborate on the philosophy of the Organization as well as the advantages that both the Turkic Council and TURKPA possess and could offer for cooperation with the OSCE. I hope that it would be particularly helpful for those two OSCE participating States, which still fail to see a value of a dialogue and cooperation with Turkic Council and TURKPA and instead attempt to block their participation in OSCE events. I would encourage them take a more constructive approach and be in line with the spirit of cooperation and dialogue in the OSCE.

First of all, I wish to stress that the Turkic world covers a large geographical space, possesses huge amounts of natural resources, has a general population of more than one hundred millions of people, demonstrate impressive economic indicators, realizing most ambitious trans-regional mega projects, and has the most stable and secure political systems and vibrant societies. Bilateral and multilateral cooperation among the states of

the Turkic Council creates new positive realities in our part of the world and contributes immensely to developing values of cooperation and good-neighborliness, integrating them into European, Asian and global markets. Our agenda is open, actions are transparent and objectives are in line with visions of many international organizations, including the OSCE. This cooperation is not directed against third countries, it is based on commonly recognized norms and principles of international law, UN Charter and Helsinki Final Act.

Our peoples are linked by a common history, culture and values. For centuries, our nations have maintained a close relationship with each other, lived and worked together, and always supported each other. And today, as independent states, we are acting together on many issues, including on those relevant to the OSCE agenda.

Therefore, the main objective of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States and TURKPA is to further strengthen the unity between our countries and peoples and promote peace and development. Our peoples should get to know each other even better and our cooperation should be carried out more broadly.

We encourage further development of dialogue and cooperation between the Turkic Council and the OSCE. As a member state of both organizations look forward to work with Ambassador Akıncı and his team in cooperation with incoming OSCE CiO and Secretariat on defining further areas of collaboration between OSCE and Turkic Council that will promote values and tasks shared by both organizations.

The Turkic Council is composed of the 4 OSCE participating states and OSCE might benefit from the level of understanding and cooperation existing among the Turkic Council member states for promoting peace and development in the OSCE area.

We are convinced that cooperation of Turkic Council and TURKPA with the OSCE will provide valuable impetus to promoting common objectives in the OSCE region, including in the fight against transnational threats, challenges to regional security, and could contribute to the consolidation of trade and investment opportunities.

Lack of progress in the settlement of Armenian-Azerbaijan Nagorno-Karabakh conflict in general, impacts on overall security and stability of the Turkic Council member states. It is natural that this conflict is on the agenda of Turkic Council and member states support resolution of this conflict on the bases of norms and principles of international law, in particular territorial integrity and sovereignty, as well as inviolability of internationally recognized borders of its member states.

We encourage the OSCE Secretary General and relevant OSCE institutions to explore the opportunities of intensifying cooperation with the Turkic Council and TURKPA.

In conclusion, we wish Ambassador Halil Akıncı and H.E. Mr. Jandos Asanov every success in their endeavors.

Thank you.