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**Statement at 810<sup>th</sup> meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council**  
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*As for delivery by Ambassador Fuad Ismayilov*

Mr. Chairman,

Our delegation warmly welcomes His Excellency Pierre Lellouche and thanks him for his interesting and thought-provoking presentation.

His Excellency's address unwittingly took us 20 years back when the Charter of Paris was adopted.

The solemn spirit of the Charter was not accidental. At the beginning of 1990s, at a time of profound changes, all European nations had a lot of hopes and expectations towards a new area of peace and unity in the OSCE area.

Despite the fact that 20 years ago we said "no" to coercion, subversion and use of force, and decided to expand friendly relations among us, this does not seem to be the case in certain parts of the OSCE region.

Violent armed conflicts erupted, affecting lives of million of people and causing dramatic human sufferings.

We have entered the 21<sup>st</sup> century with a heavy burden of unresolved conflicts that threatened and continue to endanger both regional and overall Euro-Atlantic security and stability. These conflicts have been dealt with for decades and, unfortunately, have not been solved so far. These conflicts are still among the most serious problems we face, and their settlement must be at the core of our activity.

In the light of this lamentable situation it is still of high priority to redirect our relations to the path of adherence to our common commitments, which are envisaged by the provisions of the OSCE fundamental documents, the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris. These are well-known norms and principles of

international law, which constitute the basis of behavior of the OSCE participating States.

We would like to emphasize that the Charter of Europe clearly implies to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State. In this document we “reaffirm the equal rights of peoples and their right to self-determination in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations and with the relevant norms of international law, including those relating to territorial integrity of States”. Thus, self-determination cannot be implemented out of the context of territorial integrity of a state.

We believe that respect and adherence by all of us to the principles of the Charter of Europe and putting them into practice will significantly contribute to finding durable solutions to unsettled conflicts in the OSCE area.

Speaking about conflict settlement as one of the main missions of the OSCE, particularly ways and approaches to their solution, we want to stress that there should not be any place for double standards, selective approaches and geographical preferences.

It is our view that non-compliance with the OSCE documents and following them only in words, but not in deeds, discredits our Organization.

We have been discussing these issues within the Corfu process already for a year. We do hope that our discussions will contribute to inducing the will to reconfirm our OSCE commitments and implement them faithfully.

We believe that a challenging task of strengthening the organization should start from this point. It could improve the relevance of the Organization for the common interest of all OSCE participating States.

The idea of holding the OSCE Summit, which my Government supports, is an excellent opportunity in this respect.

In conclusion, I would like to wish Your Excellency all success in your activities.

I thank you Mr.Chairman.