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## ԵԱՀԿ-ՈՒՄ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՄՇՏԱԿԱՆ ՆԵՐԿԱՅԱՑՈՒՑՉՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA TO THE OSCE

## Statement

in response to the statement by France on behalf of the three Co-Chair countries of the OSCE Minsk Group as delivered by the Delegation of Armenia at the 1328th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

05 August 2021

Madam Chairperson,

Let me start by thanking the distinguished representative of France for having raised the current issue regarding the Statement by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group issued on 29 July. We also take note of the statement by the European Union on this current issue and thank the delegations of the United Kingdom, Canada and the United States for their interventions.

In response to the abovementioned statement by the Co-Chairs of the OSCE Minsk Group the delegation of Armenia would like to refer to the Commentary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Armenia in which - and I quote - "[It] welcome[s] the approaches of the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairmanship regarding the resumption of the peace process, presented in their joint statement issued on July 29.

In the joint statements of December 3, 2020 and April 13, 2021, the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and the High Representative of the Co-Chair countries clearly outlined the priority issues of the peace process, which can create a basis for negotiations.

The statement of the Co-Chairs once again demonstrates that the key to regional peace and security is the comprehensive and lasting settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

The infiltration of the Azerbaijani armed forces into the sovereign territory of Armenia since May 12, and the attacks on the Armenian defense positions in recent days have escalated the situation. Armenia has always acted in the spirit of de-escalation by making concrete proposals to this end, particularly, to withdraw military units to the initial positions as of May 11.

We are confident that the specified assessment of Azerbaijan's actions will help to overcome the current tense situation."

Thank you.

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