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STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR VUK ŽUGIĆ, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF SERBIA, ON FORTHCOMING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA, AT THE 905th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

15 March 2012

Mr. Chairman,

I wish to inform the Permanent Council that the President of the Republic of Serbia announced on 13 March that parliamentary elections in the Republic of Serbia will be held on 6 May 2012.

In line with the OSCE commitments assumed from the Copenhagen Document 1990 and Istanbul Declaration 1999, we take this opportunity to extend an invitation to observers from participating States, the ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly.

Following an official preliminary invitation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia, representatives of ODIHR and OSCE Parliamentary Assembly conducted a Needs Assessment Mission from 8 to 10 February 2012 and, accordingly, recommended a deployment of a Limited Election Observation Mission to Serbia for the upcoming parliamentary elections. The NAM Report was distributed under reference ODIHR.GAL/11/12 on 29 February 2012.

The Republic of Serbia welcomes the presence of OSCE observers as an opportunity to once again demonstrate high standards in conducting elections and its dedication to fulfilling the OSCE commitments.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.