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STATEMENT ENGLISH only
BY THE DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

966th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
10 October 2013

address by H.E. Maia Panjikidze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

Mr. Chairperson,

We welcome Her Excellency Ms. Maia Panjikidze, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia, at the Permanent Council meeting and thank her for outlining priorities of Georgia's foreign policy.

Azerbaijan and Georgia have centuries-old relationship and certainly is one of the best examples of good-neighborly relations established in the OSCE region. Since regaining independence, Azerbaijan and Georgia have been committed to developing a strategic partnership based on common values and guided by shared objectives and interests. This partnership has brought dynamic economic development and much needed political stability to the South Caucasus region, and provided prosperity to our nations.

Azerbaijan-Georgia partnership is a driving vehicle for exposing the South Caucasus region for co-operation and integrating it into European and global markets. This partnership has successfully passed many tests and proved that South Caucasus region is an important and vital part of OSCE region linking its Asian and European dimensions, which strives to become free of dividing lines and conflicts.

In the context of the unresolved conflicts in Georgia that continue to undermine security and stability of the South Caucasus we would like to reiterate our full support to sovereignty, territorial integrity and inviolability of internationally recognized borders of Georgia. We note with satisfaction that Georgia is taking active stance in the search for a comprehensive and peaceful solution to the conflict, including within the Geneva International Discussions.

I would like to express our gratitude to the Foreign Minister Panjikidze for her presence at the Permanent Council, and wish her all the success in further activities.

Thank you.