



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

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“Promoting comprehensive security, stability and sustainable development in the OSCE area through women’s economic empowerment”

“The Way to Stockholm”
Statement by the Delegation of Armenia

9-10 September 2021

Mr. Moderator,

At the outset I would like to thank the Swedish Chairpersonship for presenting the food for thought paper on Possible Ministerial Council Deliverables in the Economic and Environmental Dimension ahead of Stockholm of the Ministerial.

The intention of the Swedish Chairpersonship to put forward a draft decision on Women's Economic Empowerment was consequential and hence anticipated. Women's Economic Empowerment is one of the main priorities of the OSCE Swedish Chairpersonship and throughout the year the topic on advancing women's rights and their empowerment prevailed in our discussions. In this regard, let me express our appreciation to the Swedish Chairpersonship for the transparent and inclusive process we had in the course of the year. I will not dwell on the importance of the issue as my delegation has already made respective comments in its opening statement. While being cognizant of the diverging views and positions of the participating States on certain aspects of this issue, we would like to express hope that eventually, we will be able to produce a consensual outcome of our almost yearlong discussions. My delegation stands ready to contribute constructively to such debates.

Mr. Moderator,

We also note the intention of the Swedish Chairpersonship to come up with proposals for MC decisions on strengthening dialogue and cooperation on protection of the environment and security as well as on the need to strengthen security and resilience in times of climate change. Without doubt, these topics are extremely pertinent and their inextricable link with security issues in the modern world become more and more

evident. However, as much as issues pressuring climate multiply security risks the same is true in reverse order and we know about that from our recent experience during the 44-day war when the use of banned munition and white phosphorus in Nagorno Karabakh`s forest areas caused major environmental disasters.

We acknowledge that issues of environment and climate change are multifaceted. While recognizing the growing pressure of the environmental problems on the security issues, it is our strong belief that the OSCE, first and foremost should concentrate on the matters deriving from the OSCE mandate, that have direct and immediate impact on environment, as a result of violations of the OSCE commitments and principles of the Helsinki Final Act, including the principle of non-use of force.

The issues of environment and climate change are of global nature requiring global actions primarily through such specialized bodies as UNEP, UNFCCC and others which are well placed to deal with the environmental and climate issues in a professional and comprehensive manner. While recognizing the importance of these issues we also believe that they require synchronized actions and caution to put the OSCE in the right place and in the right context, avoiding duplication and bringing added value both to the global efforts in this regard and to the relevance of the OSCE as such.

Having said that, we look forward to engaging constructively in our future deliberations.

Thank you.