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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 Delegation of Azerbaijan

as delivered by Mr. Arman Hovhannisyanyan, Deputy Permanent Representative of Armenia, at the 1259th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

February 13, 2020

Mr. Chairman,

It was not my intention to take the floor under this agenda item, however once again, over and over, the delegation of Azerbaijan tries to justify its failure to conduct parliamentary elections in line with its international commitments and obligations by referring to Nagorno Karabakh conflict. It has been already a long practice and sad political custom in Azerbaijan to blame Armenia and Armenians for inability to deliver on its own commitments and obligations. Unfortunately, these snap elections were not an exception.

This time Azerbaijan tries to instrumentalize the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict as a cover up of its failure in democracy and extremely low level of legitimacy of the elections. By getting acquainted with the assessments of the preliminary report of the international observation mission and the heads of the observation mission, it is difficult to identify what kind of irregularities and violations did not take place during the elections.

The international observers noted with concern the restrictions of fundamental freedoms and underlined that the violations that took place before, during and after the elections raise serious concerns about the results of the elections. In fact, the international observers' findings come to confirm that the legitimacy of elected Parliament is very low.

Mr. Chairman,

It is our firm belief that the establishment and enhancement of democratic societies in the region are in the interests of regional stability, development and prosperity. Regretfully, Azerbaijan, continues not only to deprive the fundamental rights of its own

people but also infringe the will of the people that is out of its sovereignty and jurisdiction.

The people of Artsakh have never participated in the elections of Azerbaijan either now, or throughout the entire history of the Republic of Azerbaijan. By the way the Chairwoman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Artsakh has made a statement regarding the ridiculous statement made by the Central Electoral Commission of Azerbaijan.

We would like to recall that the people of Artsakh will exercise their right to vote in the upcoming nationwide elections to be held in their homeland on March 31, in which the people of Artsakh will elect their representatives – the President and the members of the National Assembly through free expression of will. In doing so, they are not referring to the aggression, violence and constant existential threats, posed by Azerbaijan.