



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

STATEMENT

**as delivered by the Delegation of Armenia at the 2021 Annual Security Review
Conference**

**Special session: The Structured Dialogue
31 August 2021**

Mr. Moderator,

I wish to start by expressing our appreciation to Ambassador Cuesta and his team for their professional leadership of the Informal Working Group on the Structured Dialogue.

The Informal Working Group on the Structured Dialogue is an important platform to discuss revitalization of arms control and confidence- and security building measures, and we would like to express our support to its activities. In 2016, when we marked the 20th anniversary of the Lisbon Framework for Arms Control, we expressed our commitment to revitalize the conventional arms control regime by launching the Structured Dialogue. Today, as we mark the 25th anniversary of the Lisbon Framework, we have to admit that the platform is losing sight of its purpose and essence.

It goes without saying that the inclusive nature of the dialogue should be maintained. However, it should not be seen as an end in itself, but as a means of achieving genuine transparency in politico-military issues, which stems from the clear-cut mandate established by the Hamburg Ministerial Declaration.

It is our strong belief that bringing new topics into the agenda of the Structured Dialogue in an environment of persistent violations of the OSCE politico-military commitments and the gradual erosion of the politico-military tool-box will ultimately undermine the work and effectiveness of this platform. Instead, concerted efforts are needed to implement the existing commitments. Military transparency and predictability can be ensured through the all-weather implementation of existing tools of conventional arms control and confidence- and security-building measures. It is the only way we can preserve the confidence and trust among participating States, especially in times of global crises.

Mr. Moderator,

Let me conclude by reaffirming Armenia's readiness to continue its constructive engagement in future discussions of the Structured Dialogue on revitalizing the conventional arms control regime.

Thank you.