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DELEGATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA
ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

Statement

on the occasion of assumption by the Netherlands of the FSC Chairmanship

**delivered at the 808th Plenary Meeting of the
Forum for Security Co-operation**

20 January, 2016

Thank you Madam Chairperson,

We would like to warmly welcome Director General Wim Geerts and thank him for the comprehensive address.

At the outset, let me congratulate the Netherlands on assuming the Chairmanship of the FSC. Our thanks also go to Norway for its professionalism and dedication in chairing the work of this important forum.

We took a positive note of the agenda and priorities of Netherlands. We will elaborate on concrete topics in due time, while now we would like to share some remarks on the most pressing issues.

The Netherlands assumes the FSC Chairmanship in a challenging period, which is characterized by further erosion of conventional arms control regime, lack of proper implementation of confidence and security building measures, unprecedented military buildup in certain OSCE regions in violation of our joint commitments.

Armenia advocates all weather implementation of our commitments in the political-military dimension. Disregard of those commitments under any pretext, including conflicts, adds to military instability and further complicates resolution of long standing issues. Therefore, we were pleased to note, that the Netherlands intends to share with the OSCE Participating States its experience in sub-regional cooperation. We firmly believe, that regional cooperation and confidence building are key in our efforts to promote security and stability in the OSCE area.

In conclusion, let me wish you and your team every success for your tenure and pledge our full support.

Thank you Madam Chairperson.