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

ENGLISH only

Statement

**in response to the address by the Secretary General of the Cooperation Council
of Turkic Speaking States H.E. Halil Akinci
delivered by Ambassador Arman Kirakossian
at the 894th Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
15 December 2011**

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to thank Ambassador Akinci for his presentation.

As you may know there was a proposal to invite Cooperation Council of Turkic speaking countries to the Vilnius Ministerial along side with international organizations and Armenia was among those countries who opposed this invitation. Since General Secretary of CCTS Ambassador Akinci is invited to the PC, we deem it appropriate to explain our position here.

Armenia attaches great importance to the development of global and regional cooperation. However, when cooperation is based on particular solidarity stemming from perceptions of racial, linguistic and historic unity and covers not cultural but security and political relations among states we approach the issue with certain caution.

Euro-Asian continent knew many social and political theories of racial solidarity and common origin which inflicted immeasurable suffering on people who were left behind of those kinship frameworks and recognized as enemy of a certain race.

One might argue that our concerns at the era of reign of international law are exaggerated. Yet when Armenia has been pinpointed as a country territorially separating Turkic world and serving as an impediment to its development by the host initiator of Nakhichevan summit, which laid foundation of this organization on October 3, 2009, we are compelled to remember similar pan-nationalistic theories in the past.

The very approach that one organization sided with one party to the conflict given the perception of common kinship is very disturbing for us. We did not want to elaborate any further on this, simply we will recall the recent Almaty Declaration of the Cooperation Council of Turkic Speaking States namely articles 24 and 25 which explicitly mentioned its solidarity with those parties of the conflict which happen to share similar kinship and communicates their approaches to the conflict resolution as a position of the whole organization.

The OSCE has been taking completely different approach to regional cooperation. 56 countries whose languages may resemble each other may not, whose origin can be traced similarly or differently are united to advance the cause of free, democratic, common and indivisible Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian security community as it is envisaged in Astana commemorative declaration.

Thank you very much indeed.