



STATEMENT

ENGLISH only

**On the Secretary's General Annual Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the  
2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality  
as delivered by Mr. Vahe Gevorgyan, Deputy Permanent Representative, at the 1191st  
Meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council  
July 05, 2018**

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to thank the Secretary General for presenting Annual Evaluation Report on the Implementation of the 2004 Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality.

We are also thankful to the Heads of the Institutions for submitting their reports on the implementation of the 2004 Action Plan and important insights on various issues related to the protection of women in sensitive environment.

The Annual Progress Report establishes comprehensive account of all gender mainstreamed activities in all three dimensions.

We took note that the Progress Report refers to number of gender related projects and initiatives undertaken by the Government of Armenia and OSCE Office in Yerevan particularly in the economic and environmental dimension. In this regard, we particularly value creation of women's resource centers and their involvement in local policy discussions. Armenia looks forward to the OSCE continued engagement in these projects under the Armenia Cooperation Programme. We are particularly grateful to those participating states who expressed their support and pledged assistance to women's resource centers.

It should be added here that the new Government of Armenia has been promoting women involvement in decision-making at the regional level, as just few days ago the Prime Minister appointed female deputy governors throughout various regions of Armenia.

Armenia pursues gender equality and perspective in its agenda of human rights reforms in armed forces and law enforcement agencies. In doing so, Armenia makes important steps towards further implementation of the UN SC resolution 1325, as Armenia embarks on the elaboration of the national action plan. In this regard, we are thankful to the OSCE Gender Section for organizing workshop on the elaboration of a national action plan in Yerevan this March.

In our view, national action plans of the implementation of the UN SC resolution 1325 should serve as reference point of cooperation among all stakeholders including for conflict affected women.

Involvement of women residing in conflict areas, their representation and participation in various processes whether prevention of atrocities, confidence building measures or de-escalation, is indispensable part of Women, Peace and Security agenda. OSCE and its various actors dealing with gender perspective in conflict situations can bring an added value if they streamline their projects and initiatives on the needs of women residing in conflict areas.

In this regard, any future deliverable which may cover gender issues in conflict situations should ensure unimpeded humanitarian access to women residing in the conflict areas throughout the entire OSCE region.

Thank you.