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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 Report of the Coordinator of the OSCE Economic and**  
**Environmental Activities Halil Yurdakul Yigitguden**  
**delivered by Ambassador Arman Kirakossian at the 1120th Meeting of the**  
**OSCE Permanent Council**  
**November 24, 2016**

Mr. Chairman,

We would like to join the other delegations and thank distinguished Dr. Yigitguden for his comprehensive report.

We took positive note of the activities of the Office in the field of good governance, combating corruption, environment. We also thank Dr. Yigitguden and his able team for contributing to organization and successful conduct of this year's Forum and its two Preparatory Meetings, EEDIM and other events.

We took note of the activities of the Office in the field of trade facilitation and development of Euro-Asian transport links and corridors, contributing to economic connectivity initiatives in the region.

We are approaching to the second dimension in general and the topic of economic connectivity in particular from the point of view of their significant confidence building potential aimed also at removing political barriers of cooperation including unilateral economic measures.

Our discussions throughout the year at the two Preparatory Meetings, the Business Forum and the Economic and Environmental Forum, as well as during PC meetings confirmed relevance of this approach, in particular in the context of connectivity. The expert meeting within the UNECE Euro-Asian Transport Links project, held in Yerevan in October this year, was also important contribution to this end.

We already have agreed commitments on economic cooperation, including in the field of trade and transport, which should be based on transparency, equal and non-discriminatory partnership, taking into account the interests of all the participating States and the need to minimize economic actions, if they have negative effect on other participating States. We encourage the Office to design its activities in the area of trade facilitation and transport development, including economic connectivity in line with these commitments.

Thank You.