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

Statement

On the large scale military exercises of Azerbaijan and Turkey

delivered at the 857th session of the Forum for Security Cooperation

We would like to invite the attention of the Forum to the largescale military exercise, started in Azerbaijan from 19-24 June. The Press service of the Ministry of Defense of Azerbaijan confirmed that 23.000 troops of the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan are taking part in the exercise with involvement of 120 tanks and Armored vehicles, 180 rocket and artillery systems of different calibers, multiple launch rocket systems and mortars, up to 30 combat aircrafts, new types of electronic warfare assets and unmanned aerial vehicles.

In accordance with the para 40.1.1 of Chapter V of the Vienna Document 11 (**V. Prior Notification of Certain Military Activities (CMA)**), the military activity is subject to notification at least 42 days in advance for military activity exceeding one of the following thresholds: 9,000 troops, 250 tanks, 500 ACVs, or 250 pieces of artillery.

In this regard, we would like to reiterate our concern, which was expressed with respect to largescale unnotified military activities recurrently conducted by Azerbaijan.

We request Azerbaijani delegation to provide clarifications on this matter.

Furthermore, the Press Service of the Ministry of Defense of Azerbaijan has also referred to the conduct of another exercise in the immediate proximity of Armenian borders in Nakhichevan this time jointly undertaken with Turkey from June 12-16th.

In the spirit of transparency, I would like to request the Turkish and Azerbaijani delegations to provide information about the parameters of this exercise.

In the meantime, we would to remind the Turkish delegation that our request for clarification with regard to the joint tactical exercise of Azerbaijan and Turkey held from May 1st to 5th, remains unanswered. Therefore, we would like to repeat it and request clarification in this regard.

Thank you.