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The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE presents its compliments to the Permanent Missions and Delegations of the OSCE participating States, OSCE Partners for Cooperation, OSCE Secretariat and OSCE Institutions, and with reference to its Note Verbale No. 0150/10/10 dated 02 April 2016 has the honour to transmit herewith update on the latest situation in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict zone as of April 4.

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Azerbaijan to the OSCE avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Permanent Missions and Delegations of the OSCE participating States, OSCE Partners for Cooperation, OSCE Secretariat and OSCE Institutions the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 04 April 2016

Enclosure: 1 page



*Permanent Missions and Delegations of the OSCE participating States,
OSCE Partners for Cooperation,
OSCE Secretariat and OSCE Institutions*

Update on latest situation in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict zone

April 4-On April 3, in response to numerous appeals of the international community and as a sign of its peace-loving policy, the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Azerbaijan announced unilateral cessation of all counter-measures along the Line of Confrontation in the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict zone. This unilateral decision followed continued violations by the Armenian side of bilateral agreement reached on April 2 upon the initiative and mediation of the Russian Federation on re-establishment of cease-fire on April 2, starting from 3 p.m.

Regretfully, the Armenian side did not reciprocate the unilateral good will gesture of the Azerbaijani side and continued shelling of civilian and military positions of Azerbaijan on April 3, as well as on night of the April 3rd to 4th. The Armenian armed forces continued intensive fire, subversive and provocative strikes attacks along the Line of Confrontation, especially in the directions of Tartar and Aghdara with heavy artillery and large-caliber weapons. As a result of deliberate targeting of civilian residential areas, numerous casualties were registered among the civilian population residing in the vicinity of the Line of Confrontation. Three Azerbaijani servicemen perished while countering the Armenian attack on April 4.

On April 4, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan declared that “if the armed forces of Armenia continue to violate ceasefire and target residential areas and civilians, the responsibility lies on the Republic of Armenia for the counter-measures that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan is forced to take to ensure the security of densely-populated civilian settlements in the vicinity of the Line of Confrontation”.