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ԵԱՀԿ-ՈՒՄ ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ՀԱՆՐԱՊԵՏՈՒԹՅԱՆ ՄՇՏԱԿԱՆ ՆԵՐԿԱՅԱՑՈՒՑՉՈՒԹՅՈՒՆ PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA TO THE OSCE

28th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum

"Promoting security, stability and economic growth in the OSCE area by preventing and combating corruption through innovation, increased transparency and digitalization",

Prague, 10-11 September 2020.

"Possible Ministerial Council Deliverables in the Economic and Environmental Dimension"

Statement by the Delegation of Armenia

Mr Moderator.

At the outset I would like to thank the Albanian Chairmanship for presenting the concept paper on Possible Ministerial Council Deliverables in the Economic and Environmental Dimension. We are pleased to note the intention of the Albanian Chairmanship to put forward a draft decision on *Preventing and Combating corruption through Digitalization and Increased Transparency.* This is exactly what we were discussing quite intensively throughout the year.

As it was stated on numerous occasions, the fight against corruption in all its manifestations and at all levels is an absolute priority for Armenia. Our active participation in the preparatory meetings of the Forum also by way of engaging high-level speakers on a number of important aspects of prevention and fight against corruption reaffirms the importance that Armenia attaches to this commitment.

We are also satisfied with our effective cooperation with the OSCE in this field. Having said this, we are ready to contribute constructively during the upcoming drafting exercises aiming to sustain our collective commitments in this area.

Mr Moderator,

We also took note of the intention of the Albanian Chairmanship to bring forward a draft decision on the *Protection of the Environment and the Sustainable Use of Natural resources*. Undoubtedly, this is an important topic, and we contributed to the expert level discussions and presented the anti-corruption measures undertaken by the

HADIKGASSE 28, 1140 VIENNA Tel: +43 1-890 63 63 E-Mail: armeniaosce@mfa.am Fax: +43 1-890 63 63 150 Government of Armenia in the field of environment. Tomorrow's presentation of our Deputy Minister of Territorial Administration and Infrastructure will present Armenia's specific experience in ensuring the sustainable and corruption-free use of natural resources through transparency and accountability.

We are willing to contribute to the discussions with a view to elaborating possible new commitments which among other things should address the fundamental principle of protection of the economic and social rights for all in a nondiscriminatory manner and in line with the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

In conclusion, we look forward to engaging constructively in our future deliberations.

Thank you.