Original: ENGLISH



United States Mission to the OSCE Statement Regarding the Minsk Group

As delivered by Ambassador Daniel B. Baer to the Permanent Council, Vienna December 17, 2015

The United States attaches great importance to the work of the Minsk Group Co-Chairs. We value their efforts to advance a peaceful and lasting settlement of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict, by speaking with one voice, and in dialogue with all Minsk Group members. We note recent statements that have called into question Turkey's constructiveness as a Minsk Group member and disagree with that assessment. Turkey has been a valuable member of the Minsk Group and has worked cooperatively with the Co-Chairs on finding a way forward in peace talks.

We welcome today's news that there will be a Summit this weekend in Switzerland and would like again to express our hope for intensified dialogue in 2016.

Thank you, Mr. Chair.