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Sent: Tuesday, July 28, 2020 2:09 PM
To: Tavlarides, Mark <mtavlarides@bgrdc.com>
Subject: Azerbaijan Update

Good afternoon,

I wanted to share a July 24 [statement](#) from the OSCE Minsk Group Co-Chairs and Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office (PRCIO) regarding the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan. The Co-Chairs and PRCIO asked the sides to prepare for “serious substantive negotiations to find a comprehensive solution to the conflict.” They again stressed the importance of “refraining from provocative statements and actions.”

The statement reads: “The Co-Chairs note that recent public statements criticizing the joint efforts of the co-chairing countries, and/or seeking unilaterally to establish new ‘conditions’ or changes to the settlement process format are not conducive to resuming a constructive dialogue.” The Co-Chairs reaffirmed the principles and elements from their March 9, 2019, statement continue to form the basis of their mediation efforts. The full statement can be found [here](#).

Despite the territory of Nagorno Karabakh being internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan, Armenia’s prime minister continues to make statements such as “Nagorno-Karabakh is Armenia,” seriously jeopardizing the peace negotiations between Armenia and Azerbaijan. During a July 22 phone call with UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev [stated](#) Azerbaijan has no military goals in the territory of Armenia, adding, “We simply have to protect and are protecting our territories and people.” President Aliyev noted Armenia has flouted UN Security Council resolutions calling for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Armenian forces from all occupied territories of Azerbaijan for nearly 30 years.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Best,

Mark

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