



**PERMANENT DELEGATION
OF NORWAY TO THE OSCE**

STATEMENT BY NORWAY ON NAGORNO-KARABAKH

As delivered by Ambassador Robert Kvile
to the (Special) Meeting of the Permanent Council
Vienna, 5 April 2016

Mr Chairman,

I aligned myself with the statement made by the Netherlands on behalf of the European Union. In my national capacity I would like to add that Norway's Foreign Minister Børge Brende in a press statement on Saturday said that he is deeply concerned by the escalation of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

He called on the parties to stop the fighting and to observe the 1994 cease fire agreement. He also appealed to the parties to avoid a further destabilization of the region and further loss of life.

Mr Chairman,

In the same statement Minister Brende underscored his support for the work of the OSCE Minsk Group and the three Co-Chairs. He encouraged the parties to lay down their arms and to seek a solution to the conflict at the negotiating table.

Thank you.