

25th OSCE Economic and Environmental Forum
“Greening the economy and building partnerships for security in the OSCE region”

Prague, 06-08 September

Closing statement
Armenia

Mr. Moderator,

We would like to extend our gratitude to the Austrian Chairmanship, the OCEEA and the Czech authorities for excellent organization of the Forum and traditional hospitality. Our special thanks go to the speakers, who shaped the frames of our discussions through professional presentations.

The balanced agenda of the Forum provided the opportunity to exchange views on number of pertinent topics of second dimension, among others, addressing natural disasters, rebuilding partnerships in conflict areas, promoting economic participation and regional economic cooperation. The need for more efficient utilization of the OSCE as a platform for dialogue to address security aspects of economy and environment was stressed.

We were pleased to note that speakers highlighted the importance of equal economic participation, stressed the complementary role of the OSCE in promoting confidence and trust through cross-border cooperation in such areas as water management and disaster risk reduction.

The importance of connectivity at different levels, including in conflict context was outlined by number of participants. We share their point of view that addressing the daily needs of people residing in conflict areas should come first in our efforts. OSCE with its toolbox, in particular relevant field missions is well placed to promote connectivity and build partnerships across dividing lines and closed borders.

On a final note, we hope that constructive discussions throughout the Forum as well as preceding events will pave way for strengthening of our commitments. We will be ready to engage constructively in discussions of possible ministerial deliverables.

Thank you.