

**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe**  
**1996 SUMMIT**  
**LISBON**  
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**STATEMENT OF THE OSCE CHAIRMAN-IN-OFFICE**

You all know that no progress has been achieved in the last two years to resolve the Nagorny Karabakh conflict and the issue of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Azerbaijan. I regret that the efforts of the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Conference to reconcile the views of the parties on the principles for a settlement have been unsuccessful.

Three principles which should form part of the settlement of the Nagorny Karabakh conflict were recommended by the Co-Chairmen of the Minsk Group. These principles are supported by all member States of the Minsk Group. They are:

-territorial integrity of the Republic of Armenia and the Azerbaijan Republic;

-legal status of Nagorny Karabakh defined in an agreement based on self-determination which confers on Nagorny Karabakh the highest degree of self-rule within Azerbaijan;

-guaranteed security for Nagorny Karabakh and its whole population, including mutual obligations to ensure compliance by all the Parties with the provisions of the settlement.

I regret that one participating State could not accept this. These principles have the support of all other participating States.

This statement will be included in the Lisbon Summit documents.