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**Joint statement by the Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation on the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement**

The Presidents of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the Republic of Armenia and the Russian Federation met in Sochi on 5 March 2011 at the invitation of the President of the Russian Federation and thoroughly discussed the course and prospects for the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement.

After considering issues relating to the practical implementation of the trilateral statement adopted in Astrakhan on 27 October 2010, the Presidents, in addition to the measures stipulated therein, agreed the following steps towards further strengthening of confidence.

1. To complete the exchange of POWs as soon as possible.
2. To try to resolve all disputed issues through peaceful means and investigate possible incidents along the line of control with the participation of parties under the auspices of the co-chairmen of the OSCE Minsk Group and with the assistance of the special representative of the OSCE chairman-in-office.

The Presidents pointed to the importance of their regular contacts on issues pertaining to the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement and agreed to continue them in this format in addition to the work of the OSCE Minsk Group.