



ARMENIA

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PRESS RELEASE

On March 25, Ambassador Armen Martirosyan, Permanent Representative of Armenia to the UN, met with the representatives of the Armenian non-governmental organizations accredited at the United Nations.

This was the first meeting of its kind aiming at getting more closely acquainted with the work carried out by these organizations at the UN, their concerns and the possibilities for cooperation with the Permanent Mission in this respect.

At the beginning of the meeting Ambassador Martirosyan thanked the participants for the enthusiastic response to the Mission's invitation to hold such a meeting. He noted that Armenia, after becoming a member of the ECOSOC, had been trying to have a constructive input in the works of this essential UN body in all those spheres that our country had some experience in or had persisting problems. The NGOs have an essential role in this respect as organizations participating in the activities of this body.

Mrs. Diane Paravazian from the Armenian Assembly of America, Mr. Aram Arkun from the Diocese of the Armenian Church of America, Mary Toumayan and Mary Melikian-Hayner from AIWA, Mrs. Anie Kalayjian from the World Federation of Mental Health, Mr. Hrag Vartanian and Ms. Adrienne Alexanian from the AGBU, Mrs. Hamesd Beugekian and Mrs. Penelope Giragosian from the Armenian Relief Society and Mrs. Iris Papazian from the Armenian Prelacy took part at the meeting.

The participants welcomed the idea of the meeting and spoke in favor of the approach described by the Ambassador, which will enable us to present Armenia to the international community in all the dimensions of its activities and in the whole spectrum of the existing problems and concerns. It will also allow the Armenian NGOs to more fully and comprehensively present their activities and projects carried out in Armenia that fall within the framework of the ECOSOC.

At the end of the meeting the representatives of the Armenian NGOs expressed their willingness to continue this positive engagement and work in the areas envisaged in a more coordinated way.

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