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by the delegation of Turkey on agenda item 169 «Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States
in the General Assembly"
(14 October 2014, New York)

Mr. Chairman,

I have the honour to speak on behalf of the Member States of the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States, namely, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and my own country, Turkey, in its capacity as the current Chair of the organization to introduce the draft resolution A/C.6/69/L.4 entitled «Observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly».

As the distinguished members of this Committee may recall in 2013 at its sixty-eighth session, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of this Committee, decided to defer a decision on the request for observer status for the Cooperation Council of Turkic-speaking States in the General Assembly to the current sixty-ninth session of the Assembly (decision 68/258).

Mr. Chairman,

The General Assembly in its decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994 set out the two criteria for the granting of the observer status in the General Assembly: being an international organization covering matters of interest to the General Assembly. All relevant information on the statutory documents and the activities of the Cooperation Council has been provided in accordance with that decision.

The Cooperation Council clearly meets these two criteria. The Council is an intergovernmental organization: its founding document, the Nakhchevan Agreement is an international treaty signed by the founding states and ratified by their respective parliaments. Moreover, the Nakhchevan Agreement was registered by the UN on 24 September 2012.

According to the statutory documents of the Council, its members embrace the principles enshrined in the UN Charter. Furthermore, these documents state that the main purposes of the Council are, among others: strengthening mutual confidence among the parties, maintaining peace in the region and beyond, coordinating actions to combat international terrorism, separatism, extremism and transborder crimes, creating favorable conditions for trade and investment, economic growth, social and cultural development, promotion of the rule of law, good governance and the protection of human rights. I wish to stress that these principles have been reaffirmed at each high level meeting of the Council.

In the course of its activities, the Council aims at building on the geographical and cultural affinities shared by member states, to create the synergy necessary for the development of good-neighbourly relations as well as for the enhancement of peace, stability and prosperity

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in Central Asia and the caucasus. The Council operates through annual meetings of Heads of States, Ministers