



27th CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN MINISTERS OF JUSTICE

Yerevan (12-13 October 2006)

**VICTIMS:
PLACE, RIGHTS AND ASSISTANCE**

*Welcome address by Mr. Andranik MARGARYAN,
Prime Minister of Armenia*

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**Republic of Armenia Prime Minister Andranik Margaryan's
Welcome Address to the Participants of the Conference of European Ministers of
Justice**

Ladies and Gentlemen;

I welcome you to the hospitable land of Armenians. We are delighted that Yerevan is hosting this Conference of of European Ministers of Justice.

Armenia attaches great importance to judicial reforms. It is commendable that the Conference will focus on important justice-related matters of public concern, such as the rights, place and assistance to victims.

The Republic of Armenia is about to complete the adoption of legislation supporting judicial reforms. We intend to start implementing these reforms in early 2007. We hope the reforms to bring us a step closer to a more efficient judiciary and the protection of human rights.

Finalising fulfilment of the Council of Europe accession commitments, Armenia is now assuming new ones, which are contemplated by the EU European Neighbourhood Policy Action Plan to be signed in the days ahead and provide guidance on further reform priorities, such as the achievement of the rule of law and the development of democracy.

In today's world, dynamic change of societies requires that the justice system be flexible and capable of confronting contemporary challenges. With globalization affecting all walks of public life, it is necessary to expand international cooperation in matters of justice. In this context, this conference has paramount importance.

I would like to once again welcome you to Armenia and wish you success.

Andranik Margaryan