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Delegation of the Russian Federation

FORMAL RESERVATION BY THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE 1481st (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

9 July 2024

Madam Chairperson,

The Russian Federation strongly objects to the manner in which the Chairmanship continues to organize discussions of the Ukraine topic, including at special meetings of the Permanent Council.

The convening of any Permanent Council meeting must be fully in line with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE as regards consultations with all the participating States (paragraphs IV.1(C)1 and IV.1(C)3), and it may not contravene the provisions of the mandate of the Chairmanship-in-Office, which unambiguously obligates the Chairmanship to take the whole spectrum of opinions into account in its actions (Porto Ministerial Council Decision No. 8 of 2002).

We reject the logic of the Chairmanship, whose actions at present can in no way be described as balanced and transparent. The convening of today's meeting is not consistent with the principle of "honest brokerage". This is yet again evidenced by the first item on the agenda for today's meeting, couched as it is in deliberately confrontational terms and reflecting only the position of Ukraine and a number of participating States that support it. Moreover, the numerous crimes committed by the Kyiv regime against the civilian population and civilian objects have not once occasioned the convening of special meetings of the OSCE Permanent Council or received any official reaction from the Chairmanship at all.

We note the Chairmanship's complete inability to organize balanced discussions on Ukraine in accordance with the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE within the decision-making bodies of our Organization. For that reason, we do not intend to speak on matters of substance during the present special meeting of the Permanent Council. A detailed analysis of the situation in the zone of the Russian special military operation, together with other considerations, will be presented by us at the next regular meeting.

We request that this formal reservation be reflected in the journal of today's special meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in accordance with paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

Thank you for your attention.