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**STATEMENT BY
MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1433rd (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

20 July 2023

**In response to the address by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia,
Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan**

We welcome you, esteemed Ararat Samvelovich, to this special meeting of the Permanent Council.

To our great regret, the situation around Nagorno-Karabakh is deteriorating. The humanitarian crisis in this territory is worsening. The local population is experiencing an acute shortage of food, medicines and basic necessities and is being effectively deprived of electricity and gas supplies.

Immediate measures must be taken to unblock the Lachin corridor and to resume the unimpeded movement of people, vehicles and cargo in both directions along the corridor and the supply of energy to the region.

In addition, we believe that, in these circumstances, it is of increasing importance to finalize the text of the peace treaty between Armenia and Azerbaijan as soon as possible and in accordance with the agreements reached. It is our view that an integral part of this agreement should be reliable and clear guarantees of the rights and security of the Armenians of Karabakh and the strict implementation of all provisions of the trilateral statements between Russia, Azerbaijan and Armenia, including the launch of the Armenian-Azerbaijani border delimitation process and the unblocking of transport linkages.

In view of the foregoing, the Russian side reaffirms its intention to actively contribute to the restoration of normal life in Nagorno-Karabakh and to the advancement of the Armenian-Azerbaijani normalization process. We are ready to organize in the near future a trilateral meeting of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in Moscow to discuss ways of implementing the agreements at the highest level, including the issue of agreeing on a peace treaty, followed by a Russian-Azerbaijani-Armenian summit in Moscow to sign the aforementioned document.

Thank you for your attention.