

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CYPRUS

OSCE Reinforced Permanent Council, 29/9/22

Mr. Chairperson,

Cyprus fully aligns with the statement delivered by the European Union. In addition, I would like to make some brief remarks in a national capacity.

Mr Chair,

Cyprus, as a country with first-hand experience, cannot but strongly condemn the purported secession or annexation, of any part of the internationally recognised territory of Ukraine, and any actions, that violate the sovereignty, territorial integrity and independence of Ukraine, including illegally organized “referenda” in areas of Ukraine that are under Russian military control. Cyprus considers them as legally invalid and calls upon the international community to act in unity against these particularly worrying developments.

Such provocative actions clearly constitute a flagrant violation of International Law, the UN Charter, as well as OSCE principles and obligations, that we all signed up to respect and abide by. They further undermine European security and stability.

We express, moreover, our increased concern with regards to any dangerous nuclear rhetoric and we call on the Russian Federation to refrain from any action which might exacerbate the situation further; Possible use of nuclear weapons would have devastating ramifications for the whole region and will put mankind at detrimental risk.

We, once again, reiterate our unwavering support to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. We also wish to restate our solidarity to the people of Ukraine and our call for cessation of military operations urging for a return to diplomacy and dialogue in order to prevent the further loss of life.

Cyprus will continue to defend and promote the protection of human rights, the respect of international law and an international rules-based order.

I would like to request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chair