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STATEMENT BY MR. ALEKSANDR VOLGAREV, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1390th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

23 September 2022

On the outcomes of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation summit in Samarkand

Mr. Chairperson,

We are grateful to the distinguished Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan for the information on the outcomes of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) summit held in Samarkand on 15 and 16 September. We agree with your assessment that the meeting was a great success. Consideration was given to the conditions and prospects for further development of multilateral co-operation, and priorities and practical measures to enhance the SCO's activities at the present stage were identified. Particular emphasis was given to increasing the SCO's role in world affairs in the light of the emerging geopolitical realities. In practical terms, 44 documents were signed, 22 of which were adopted at the highest level and cover all areas of the SCO's activities.

As Russian President Vladimir Putin noted at the concluding press conference, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is made up of States that are home to more than half of the global population and that generate 25 per cent of the world's gross domestic product. The economies of the region's countries are developing rapidly, and co-operation with SCO countries is creating the conditions for Russia's economic development and the successful resolution of issues in improving the living standards of its citizens.

Against the backdrop of growing political turbulence in the world, the SCO offers a clear and attractive agenda aimed at the progressive development of its members and partners with no place for confrontation and geopolitical egocentrism. This is especially reflected in the fact that the current SCO members – China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan – were joined at this summit by Iran as a fully fledged member, and the Organisation's expansion will continue.

We congratulate our colleagues from Uzbekistan once again on the excellent organization and successful holding of the summit.

Thank you for your attention.