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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1535th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 September 2025

**In response to the report by the
Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Astana**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are pleased to welcome the distinguished Ambassador Alexey Alexandrovich Rogov here in his capacity as the new Head of the OSCE Programme Office in Astana, and thank him for his detailed report on that field operation's activities.

We trust that the Programme Office will continue to work in strict compliance with its mandate and in close co-ordination with the host country authorities. During a visit to Kazakhstan in April of this year, a Russian/Belarusian delegation from the OSCE had an opportunity to acquaint itself first-hand with the Programme Office's work and received positive feedback both from the field presence's management and from the Kazakh authorities on the usefulness and effectiveness of the consultative mechanism established for the planning and implementation of the Programme Office's project activities in the three dimensions of the OSCE's work. This is of fundamental importance, not least in view of the large-scale reforms being carried out by the leadership of Kazakhstan.

We can see how the Programme Office is pursuing co-operation with the representative offices of international and regional organizations and educational institutions in Kazakhstan. In that regard, we call for more active use to be made of the expertise and practical capabilities of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

We emphasize that attention should continue to be focused on the Programme Office's projects aimed at assisting the host authorities in border security, combating the terrorist threat and the spread of extremist ideology, stemming the flow of funds and other forms of support for terrorists and their accomplices, countering drug trafficking, and also in the field of information security. We note the field operation's efforts to assist the host country authorities in the rehabilitation and reintegration of the families of foreign terrorist fighters returning from Syria.

We have taken note of the Programme Office's increased activity in the fields of judicial reform and lawmaking. We would urge an extremely balanced approach to project activities in these sensitive areas.

OSCE expertise should not be allowed to become a means for “imposing” unilateral approaches and practices on a country’s authorities.

We support the Programme Office’s efforts in the economic and environmental dimension, notably its assistance in combating corruption and money laundering, in the development of trade ties and transport connectivity, in supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, in water resources management and environmental protection, and in strengthening disaster risk resilience.

We note the Programme Office’s contacts with other OSCE field operations in Central Asia and with a number of international organizations operating in the region.

Russia and Kazakhstan are allies and integration partners. Our trade and economic co-operation is developing at a good pace. There is constructive engagement between Russia and Kazakhstan in the field of environmental protection. We are interested in further deepening the ties between Russia and Kazakhstan on the “green front” through participation in the implementation of joint regional initiatives, including initiatives to save the Aral Sea and conserve the ecosystems of the transboundary river basins of the Ural and Irtysh rivers. There is no doubt that the Programme Office’s projects to strengthen the capacities of specialists in this field and to promote the adoption of international standards for water use are making a verifiable contribution to enhancing the effectiveness of such work.

In the human dimension, we note the Programme Office’s extensive work on combating trafficking in human beings and promoting women’s rights, but also the assistance provided to the host country authorities in expanding opportunities for the most vulnerable population groups.

At the same time, we should like to recall the counterproductive nature of attempts to broadly define the women, peace and security agenda. We would point out that this agenda comprises not only the well-known United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 but also a number of subsequent associated decisions. The thematic scope of these documents can hardly be said to overlap fully with the existing OSCE commitments adopted by all the participating States.

The Russian Federation and the Republic of Kazakhstan are bound together by strong bonds of friendship and alliance. The peoples of our countries have long-standing traditions of good-neighbourliness and mutual understanding, along with deep-rooted cultural and humanitarian ties. We view Kazakhstan as a reliable partner on the Vienna platform and also at other inter-State associations, specifically the Eurasian Economic Union, the CIS, the CSTO, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation and the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia.

In that regard, we are keen for the OSCE’s activities in Kazakhstan to be aimed, first and foremost, at building the country’s capacities and enhancing the prosperity of its citizens, and also for these activities to take into consideration the host country’s interests and the traditional way of life there. We are convinced, esteemed Alexey Alexandrovich, that your experience and professionalism will come into their own in ensuring the effective work of the OSCE Office in Kazakhstan.

As we wrap up our statement, we should like to wish Mr. Rogov and his team good health and continued success.

Thank you for your attention.