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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1536th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

2 October 2025

In response to the report by the Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

Mr. Chairperson,

We are pleased to welcome the distinguished Ambassador William Leaf in his new capacity as Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat, and thank him for his instructive report on the field operation's activities.

We believe it is extremely important that the Centre continues to closely co-ordinate its work with the authorities of Turkmenistan and to liaise with the host country on project activities in all three dimensions of security. Going forward, too, we trust that the field operation will continue to adhere strictly to its mandate and maintain a balanced focus in the implementation of activities under the three "baskets".

We share the view of the Turkmen authorities and the Centre's leadership that combating the terrorist threat and countering the spread of extremist ideology and radicalism must remain priority areas of work in the first dimension. Particular attention should be paid in this regard to stemming the flow of funds to, and other forms of support for, terrorists and their accomplices. We note in this connection the Centre's contribution to bringing Turkmenistan's legislation and law enforcement practices into line with Financial Action Task Force (FATF) standards. Assisting the host country in implementing the recommendations of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism is also something that we deem useful.

In view of the growing number of cyberincidents and crimes committed in the sphere of information and communication technologies, we note the field operation's contribution to assisting the authorities in countering offences in these realms. The aforementioned aspects demand focused attention. We would be grateful if the Centre would continue to shine a bright light on these topics and on the results of work in these areas.

There should be no slackening of efforts to secure Turkmenistan's land and sea borders and to counter all forms of transnational organized crime. Statistics show that there has been no reduction in the level of cross-border threats in the immediate vicinity of Central Asia's borders, caused, among other things, by the situation in Afghanistan. We welcome, in this regard, the Centre's efforts to assist the Turkmen authorities in training border guards, coastguard specialists and law enforcement officers. The Russian

Federation reaffirms its readiness to provide expert and practical support to Turkmenistan in these areas, including through the OSCE.

We can see that Turkmenistan is interested in promoting the economic and environmental agenda. We note the authorities' efforts to enhance the legal and regulatory framework in these fields. We welcome the Centre's activities aimed at improving the investment climate, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and promoting renewable and alternative energy, including "green" hydrogen production.

On a separate note, we should like to highlight the demand for the training of specialists from Turkmenistan in the field of energy diplomacy.

We can also see that the Centre is paying particular attention to supporting the host country in the human dimension. We hope that the Centre's assistance with the implementation of the National Action Plan on Human Rights in Turkmenistan for 2021–2025 and the National Action Plan on Gender Equality in Turkmenistan for 2021–2025 was tangible and relevant to the host country. At the same time, we call for the planning and implementation of activities in the human dimension "basket" to take into consideration the country's traditions and national specificities.

The relations between Russia and Turkmenistan are of a multifaceted and friendly nature. We appreciate Turkmenistan's neutral status and its balanced position when it comes to key issues on the global agenda. We note its growing role in regional and international affairs and the efforts of the country's leadership to raise Turkmenistan's profile in the foreign arena. We wish our Turkmen friends every success in 2026, when their country will be chairing the Commonwealth of Independent States. We look forward to the continuation of fruitful co-operation both in a bilateral format and within the OSCE.

We trust that the Centre in Ashgabat will continue its work engaging in meaningful dialogue with the host country authorities, and that it will avoid partisanship and politicization.

In closing, we should like to wish Ambassador Leaf and his team good health and success in all their undertakings.

Thank you for your attention.