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**ADDITIONAL REMARKS BY
MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1370th (SPECIAL) MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

22 April 2022

**On ongoing crimes by Ukraine against the civilian population with the support of a
Western alliance of OSCE participating States**

Mr. Chairperson,

Before speaking, you should look at the basic documents. The European Peace Facility, for example, was set up for a completely different purpose. It is now openly used for military supplies, massive ones in fact, contrary to the Common Position of the European Union approved at the Council of Heads of State in 2008 and set down in writing. Not knowing that is a disgrace. I will quote what is written in Article 2, paragraph 3, of that document: “Criterion Three: Internal situation in the country of final destination, as a function of the existence of tensions or armed conflicts. Member States shall deny an export licence for military technology or equipment which would provoke or prolong armed conflicts or aggravate existing tensions or conflicts in the country of final destination.” There are other criteria that have been grossly violated in the interests of provoking an armed confrontation in Ukraine. By supplying the Ukrainian armed forces, countries become complicit in further bloodshed, because these weapons are mostly used against the civilian population. That is the first thing.

Secondly, I should like to advise the distinguished representative of Ukraine to prepare more seriously. There are facts, a body of evidence, documents, testimonies, and so on. These are not unsubstantiated claims. So if you are going to argue with us, please be kind enough to provide specific facts to refute the information we have presented. This is also the essence of professional dialogue between diplomats.

Responding to the distinguished representative of the European Union, no Russian experts were invited to the biological weapons event, despite our delegation’s request in the Forum for Security Co-operation. We were prepared to offer documents that were found in these laboratories and confirm all the facts we have mentioned today, but apparently the intention of such a meeting was something else: simply to accuse. We will certainly continue to disseminate the documents we have found, which reveal that laboratories set up with the help of the Department of Defense of the United States of America were developing biological and toxin weapons. We will continue to do so next week. We are ready to engage in joint discussion of this subject, but in discussion that is based on facts, documents and evidence and that does not simply dismiss them. This is also an indirect response to the distinguished ambassador of

Switzerland, who lumped things together and accused Russia of some very strange unproven things. We spoke specifically with reference to the laboratories in Ukraine, which posed and continue to pose a threat to regional and international security in breach of the relevant Convention. This needs to be investigated by specialist agencies. And Russia will raise this issue, which is already being discussed within the United Nations and its Security Council.

Lastly, I should like to remind the distinguished Secretary General that I spoke of several cases that cast suspicion not on international staff but on local staff of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine (SMM). These are completely different things. I very much hope that the facts uncovered will enable us to assess the situation more objectively – what the locally hired SMM personnel were actually doing. Unfortunately, in a number of OSCE field operations in the past, such cases have led to the conclusion that some of the activities of these field operations were contrary to their assigned mandates. We could devote a separate discussion to this topic. We have a considerable amount of evidence on this – how the missions worked, especially the local staff employed by the OSCE field operations. We are open. If there is any information on the results of the investigation conducted by the local authorities of the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics and the Russian Investigative Committee, we shall certainly share such information.

Thank you for your attention.