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**STATEMENT BY  
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1452nd MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

23 November 2023

**On countering the global drug threat**

Mr. Chairperson,

I have the honour to read out a joint statement by the OSCE delegations of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, the Republic of Uzbekistan and my country, the Russian Federation, on co-operation in countering the global drug threat.

“Recognizing that the world illicit drug trafficking problem continues to pose a serious threat to global and regional security and stability, undermines people’s health and well-being and jeopardizes the sustainable economic development of States,

Reaffirming our commitment to counter the world drug problem, actively contribute to building societies free of drug abuse and prevent and eradicate the illicit cultivation and production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, the diversion of and illicit trafficking in precursors, money laundering and illicit financial flows related to drugs, the misuse of information and communication technologies in this regard, illicit demand and drug abuse,

Concerned about the challenges related to illicit trafficking in opiates and methamphetamine from Afghanistan, cocaine, cannabis, synthetic drugs, new psychoactive substances and chemical precursors throughout the OSCE’s area of responsibility and beyond,

Expressing the urgent need to strengthen international co-operation to address and counter the world drug problem, which must be a collective effort undertaken in a constructive and depoliticized manner,

We stress the need for States to comply strictly with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as amended by the 1972 Protocol, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances of 1988, which remain the fundamental bases of the international drug control system.

We reaffirm our shared commitment to effectively counter the world drug problem, which requires co-ordinated and consistent action at the national and international level, including full compliance with the

three international drug control conventions and stepping up implementation of existing drug policy commitments, in particular those enshrined in the 1999 Charter for European Security, the 2010 Astana Commemorative Declaration: Towards a Security Community, the 2012 OSCE Concept for Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs and the Diversion of Chemical Precursors and the 2015 Declaration on the OSCE Activities in Support of Global Efforts in Tackling the World Drug Problem.

We advocate the holding, preferably on an annual basis, of conferences under the auspices of the OSCE on combating the threat of illicit drugs and the diversion of chemical precursors, and regional and subregional expert seminars, in co-operation, as appropriate, with other organizations with a mandate in this field.

We underline the relevance of further interaction and co-operation between the OSCE and other international and regional organizations, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, the Collective Security Treaty Organization, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre for combating the illicit trafficking of narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and their precursors, in order to co-ordinate relevant efforts, avoid duplication of activities and continue to identify challenges related to the world drug problem, where the OSCE could play an effective regional role in supporting global efforts to combat illicit drug trafficking and the diversion of chemical precursors, including through the provision of expert assistance, capacity-building and the training of specialist staff for participating States.”

I thank you for your attention and request that the text of this statement be attached to the journal of today’s meeting of the Permanent Council.