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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 1170th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

21 December 2017

**On the invitation to the  
OSCE/Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights to observe the  
presidential elections in the Russian Federation**

Mr. Chairperson,

We should like to inform the OSCE participating States that in accordance with the resolution of the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation, the date for the next presidential elections of the Russian Federation has been set for 18 March 2018.

In compliance with the commitments set forth in the 1990 CSCE Copenhagen Document, on 19 December the Chairperson of the Central Election Commission of the Russian Federation, Ella Pamfilova, sent a letter to the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Ingibjörg Gísladóttir, inviting the Office to take part in the international observation of the preparation for and conduct of the democratic elections in the Russian Federation. The corresponding official note has been circulated by us among all participating States.

Thank you for your attention.