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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1299th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL
VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE**

21 January 2021

On the early presidential election in Kyrgyzstan

Madam Chairperson,

We should like to congratulate our Kyrgyz friends on the successful holding on 10 January of the early presidential election and a referendum on the form of government in the country. We very much hope that the results of this election and referendum will contribute to the stabilization of the internal political situation and to the prosperity of the Kyrgyz people.

The desire of the Republic's leadership to ensure that the election was transparent and open is demonstrated by the invitation to a large number of international observers, about which the distinguished Permanent Representative of the Kyrgyz Republic has already spoken. The vast majority of these observers agreed that the authorities succeeded in organizing the expression of will and the referendum in accordance with existing legislation and international commitments. The irregularities recorded did not have a significant impact on the outcome of the vote.

A joint observation mission from the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly also concluded that, in spite of the short lead time and the COVID-19 pandemic, the election was orderly overall and well administered, fundamental rights and freedoms were respected, and the relevant legislation provided a sound basis for a democratic and competitive expression of will.

The President of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, congratulated the President-elect of the Kyrgyz Republic, Sadyr Japarov, on his election victory and expressed confidence that his future work as Head of State would help to further improve Russian-Kyrgyz relations. This is undoubtedly in the fundamental interest of our brotherly peoples and serves to strengthen security in the Central Asian region.

Thank you for your attention.