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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE  
1316th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

27 May 2021

**Global Health Summit**

Madam Chairperson,

We are grateful to our esteemed Italian colleagues for the information on the Global Health Summit, which took place on 21 May via videoconference with the participation of Heads of State or Government and the heads of relevant international organizations.

During the event, those who were at the forefront of the international community's co-ordinated response to the current public health crisis caused by the coronavirus pandemic and its socio-economic consequences drew up an integrated set of principles for tackling large-scale outbreaks of infectious diseases while reviving the world economy.

The Declaration adopted as the outcome document of the Summit lays down fundamental approaches for inter-State co-operation on the aforementioned endeavour, drawing on the potential of all interested partners: businesses, academia, professionals and non-governmental organizations (also within the framework of public-private partnerships).

Of great importance are the collective approaches confirmed at the Summit with regard to further strengthening the co-ordinating role of the World Health Organization (WHO) and intensifying international co-operation designed to achieve sustainable development, build the production capacity of States, organize open global supply chains, and promote co-operation in the medical field between industry and research institutions.

The Declaration stresses the need for concerted efforts to vaccinate populations on a global scale and on an equitable basis, the distribution of vaccines as a public good, the tackling of problems related to debt sustainability, the removal of protectionist barriers and the transfer of advanced technologies.

Russia was represented at the Summit by the Deputy Prime Minister, Tatyana Golikova. In her address, Ms. Golikova stressed that Russia was willing to undertake joint efforts with all interested international partners at WHO, the United Nations and other leading organizations, and also via bilateral channels, in order to neutralize the risks and consequences of the coronavirus pandemic as soon as possible.

She outlined the extensive opportunities for drawing on Russian best practices and powerful medical solutions, such as safe and effective vaccines, modern digital technologies and arrangements for preventing the spread of the coronavirus infection. That these Russian-made achievements are highly sought after is illustrated by the example of the Sputnik V vaccine, which has been registered in around 70 countries, deservedly enjoys strong demand and reputation, and is promoting the development of herd immunity and the creation of jobs, industrial capacities and a pool of expertise.

In this regard, I should like to recall that at the Permanent Council on 11 March this year, the Russian delegation raised the issue of improving scientific and technological co-operation in response to the spread of the coronavirus pandemic. We did so invoking medicine- and public health-related commitments enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act and other OSCE documents, but also in United Nations documents. Similarly, agreement on this topic was reached among almost all the participating States in the joint statement of 15 December 2020.

I believe that a separate Permanent Council meeting could well be devoted to this topic and that, as we proposed earlier, it is worth working on it within the framework of the Economic and Environmental Committee with the assistance of the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities.

Thank you for your attention.