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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 1019th MEETING OF THE  
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

16 October 2014

**In response to the reports by the chairpersons of the  
three Permanent Council committees**

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like to thank the chairpersons of the three committees for their interesting reports. We find it useful to “synchronize watches” with respect to the activities of the committees as we prepare for the Ministerial Council meeting.

I should like to briefly comment on several points that we consider important.

We support the efforts of the chairperson of the Security Committee, the distinguished Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom, Mr. Dominic Schroeder, in implementing the strategic OSCE documents on countering transnational threats (TNTs): the Concept for Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs and the Diversion of Chemical Precursors, the Strategic Framework for Police-Related Activities and the Consolidated Framework for the Fight against Terrorism. We note the relevance of the discussions organized in the Committee on countering foreign militants and terrorists and on the subject of the refusal to finance terrorism through the payment of ransoms for hostages. The outcome of these discussions along with the expert know-how that emerged from the Counter-Terrorism Conference in Interlaken and the Annual Security Review Conference could prove useful in the elaboration of draft documents on TNTs for the Basel Ministerial Council meeting.

We trust that the same useful discussions will also take place during the forthcoming anti-drugs conference. It is essential that relevant experts from the OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation take part, so that their final recommendations can find practical application in the OSCE’s activities.

We note the work undertaken to implement the initial set of confidence-building measures to reduce the risks of conflict stemming from the use of information and communication technologies. Success in this area will largely depend on whether it is possible to draw up a new set of measures.

No less important a topic in the context of 2014 is developing co-operation with Afghanistan on countering TNTs. Representatives of the leading regional organizations and Central Asian countries need to be more actively included in this discussion.

We should like to thank the distinguished Permanent Representative of Slovakia, Ms. Ol'ga Algayerová, for her skilful leadership of the Economic and Environmental Committee. We note the cross-dimensional topic of the security of critical infrastructure facilities proposed by her, and believe it would be useful to draw the participating States' attention to this.

We regard as useful the practice of holding thematic meetings of the Committee, which help to increase the practical benefits of its work. We believe it would be worthwhile to invite relevant staff from the field missions to present reports at these meetings. This would enable us to receive first-hand information about the OSCE's work in the field.

We feel that the Economic and Environmental Committee should pay greater attention to addressing the consequences of the global financial and economic crisis and its effects on the socio-economic situation of the people living in the OSCE participating States. It is important to continue the work to support the efforts of the specialist international forums involved in tackling corruption and money-laundering. We trust that the Economic and Environmental Dimension Implementation Meeting, which is concerned, among other things, with the implementation of the 2012 Dublin Declaration on Strengthening Good Governance and Combating Corruption, Money-Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, will give further impetus to the participating States' efforts in this area.

We thank Ambassador Robert Kvile for his efforts to build constructive dialogue in the Human Dimension Committee. It has been possible to examine many important issues during this period. The careful selection of competent speakers has played a major role in the lively discussions. The Russian Federation is prepared, if there is an interest, to seek out highly qualified experts from Russia to attend Human Dimension Committee meetings.

Unfortunately, a number of important issues are no longer on the Human Dimension Committee's agenda. These include child protection, ensuring the right to privacy, and social and economic rights. As shown by the development of the situation in the OSCE area, these problems are becoming ever more relevant and require greater attention on the part of our Organization.

This year, it once again proved impossible to avoid an excessive workload, largely as a result of voluntary reports not foreseen by the Ministerial Council decision on the modalities of the Human Dimension Committee's work. We hope that next year in addition to the traditional human dimension events there will be other forums for an exchange of positive experience in the implementation of OSCE commitments.

The discussion on comprehensive optimization of activities in the human dimension should continue. This work could also be organized within the Helsinki+40 format.

We are approaching the "home stretch" before the forthcoming Ministerial Council meeting in Basel. There is still much to be done, first and foremost on draft Ministerial Council decisions. Unfortunately, not all States are ready for substantive drafting work. This approach needs to be changed without delay. We believe that in the time remaining all three

committee heads should focus their efforts on the preparation of documents for the Ministerial Council meeting, putting aside secondary issues. Perhaps we will then be able to complete all the work on the decisions before we leave for Basel. This, in turn, will enable our ministers to focus on discussing the truly pressing matters of current and future European policy.

Thank you for your attention.