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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDRE VULIC,
DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF FRANCE TO THE
OSCE, AT THE 1149th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

8 June 2017

**Regarding the decision by the
United States of America to withdraw from the Paris Agreement**

I make this statement on behalf of France and refer to the joint statement of 1 June 2017 by the Heads of State and Government of France, Germany and Italy.

We take note with regret of the decision by the United States to withdraw from the Paris Agreement.

This universal agreement remains the cornerstone of international co-operation in confronting climate change in an effective and opportune manner and in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals.

We consider the dynamic movement born in Paris in December 2015 towards a low-carbon economy to be irreversible and we firmly believe that the Paris Agreement cannot be renegotiated, as it is a vital tool for our planet, our societies and our economies.

We are convinced that the implementation of the Paris Agreement offers substantial economic opportunities for prosperity and growth in our countries and at the global level.

We therefore reaffirm our strong commitment to the rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement and urge all of our partners to step up their activities to combat climate change.

France will support all of the groups of actors born out of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP21) that are rallying States, cities, citizens and enterprises to continue to combat climate change throughout the planet.

As the President of the Republic, Emmanuel Macron, emphasized, if we fail to act, the next generations will know a world shaped by migrations, wars, shortages and the disappearance of coastal towns as a result of climate change. As a security organization, the OSCE must therefore remain fully mobilized in the face of the climate challenge. In that context, we offer our full support to the Austrian Chairmanship, which attaches great importance to environmental questions in the second dimension.