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**STATEMENT BY
MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH, PERMANENT
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE
1071st MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

15 October 2015

Regarding the results of the investigation into the Malaysia Airlines crash

Mr. Chairperson,

We note the information by the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands regarding the Safety Board report on the results of the technical investigation into the air crash over Ukraine in July 2014.

We should once again like to express our sincere condolences to the families of all of the victims of this terrible tragedy.

We should like to make the following comments regarding the publication of the results of the technical investigation of the wreckage of the Malaysia Airlines Boeing.

The conclusions from the investigation still have to be studied in detail by Russian experts. At this stage it is clear that Ukraine was directly responsible for not closing its airspace to civil aviation and also that the investigation itself took a number of strange turns that inevitably had a bearing on the results.

From the very beginning, Russia has consistently advocated that the analysis of the circumstances of the tragedy should be objective, comprehensive and transparent. We supported the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 2166 stipulating how the investigation should be carried out. Unfortunately, these stipulations have not been observed; the Security Council mechanism was not implemented, the United Nations Secretary-General never presented comprehensive proposals to the Security Council regarding measures for assisting in the investigation, and no action was taken regarding the explanation of the causes of the crash distributed by Russia to the United Nations Security Council in September 2014.

From the outset, Russian specialists endeavoured to participate constructively in the work of the expert group in the expectation of being given access to all available information. However, this access has been restricted. All of the accumulated objective information we possess from satellites and radar stations has been published. Specialists from the

Almaz-Antey company, the original designers of the Buk missile, reached well-founded professional conclusions regarding the causes of the disaster and conducted a full-scale simulation of the possible impact on the Boeing. As far as we know, none of this data was taken into account by the group of international experts. Nor did our Dutch colleagues respond to the invitation to visit Russia to study the material on the disaster in the possession of Almaz-Antey.

Ukraine has never presented to the international community its record of conversations by military air-traffic controllers or information about the already confirmed activity of the Ukrainian air defence units in the region.

The sudden discovery, a year after the start of the investigation, of fragments of the missile that allegedly destroyed the aircraft and the sending of a new expedition of Dutch experts to the crash site to collect residual aircraft debris are strange to say the least, given the fact that it was claimed much earlier that virtually all of the debris had already been collected.

We are still interested in establishing the real causes of the Boeing crash but not in justifying accusations made literally three days after the tragedy. Those who have spoken today from such agenda-driven positions merely confirm that they only accept conclusions that are in line with their political interests.

We call for a continuation of the investigation in a proper and correct manner with the full participation of States in possession of materials that could shed light on the disaster that befell flight MH17.

Thank you for your attention.