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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1181st MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

12 April 2018

On the parliamentary election in Turkmenistan

Mr. Chairperson,

We welcome the parliamentary election that took place on 25 March in Turkmenistan, our friend.

Sergei Lebedev, the head of the Commonwealth of Independent States observer mission at the election said that it was “well organized, respected Turkmenistan’s legislation, and met the universal international norms for holding democratic elections.” He stressed that the elections were “multiparty, open, free and competitive”. Similar positive assessments were given by the observer mission from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, which called the election “transparent, free, reliable and democratic”.

The Russian Central Election Commission assessed the election as being well-organized and in line with Turkmenistan’s Constitution, Electoral Code, and the conditions formulated by the international community.

We look forward to constructive co-operation with our colleagues from Turkmenistan on current issues on the bilateral and international agendas.

Thank you for your attention.