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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 1244th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

17 October 2019

**On the summit of the Council of the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Ashgabat**

Mr. Chairperson,

We thank our Turkmen friends for their excellent organization of the recent meeting of the Council of the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), which focused on the further development of co-operation within the Commonwealth. Discussions were also held on some of the most pressing international issues.

As the hosts of the event have already noted, the topics of the meeting were political, economic, cultural and humanitarian integration in the CIS, ensuring security, maintaining peace and stability, and implementing new joint projects in the fields of transport, communications, the fuel and energy sector, industry, energy and technology.

A number of important documents were adopted in the wake of the summit. Particular attention was devoted by the Heads of State to the preparations for the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the victory in the Great Patriotic War. An important milestone was the Declaration on Strategic Economic Co-operation aimed at creating effective partnership mechanisms in the Commonwealth.

In conclusion, we express once again our gratitude to Turkmenistan for its excellent performance of its duties as Chair of the Council of the CIS Heads of State. We sincerely wish success to our Uzbek friends, who will take up this baton in 2020.

Thank you for your attention.