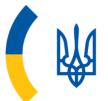
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**Permanent Mission of Ukraine** to the International Organizations in Vienna

> STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE AT THE 1033<sup>rd</sup> FSC PLENARY MEETING (25 January 2023)

## Agenda item 3, Any Other Business

Mr Chairperson,

With your permission, we would like to inform the participating States, that on 23 December 2022, the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine took a decision to terminate a number of intergovernmental agreements with the Republic of Belarus in the sphere of defence cooperation, including the Agreement on complementary confidence and security building measures of 16 October 2001. The relevant notification format F41 was circulated by Ukraine on 29 December 2022 under reference number CBM/UA/22/0029/F41/O.

The mentioned intergovernmental agreements of Ukraine with the Republic of Belarus ceased to be effective on 3 January 2023.

This step was taken due to the fundamental change of circumstances caused by the participation of the Belarusian side in the Russian war against Ukraine by providing the aggressor state with the territory and airspace, allowing it to use Belarusian military infrastructure for launching air and missile strikes against Ukraine and ensuring the Russian troops with necessary military logistics. Belarus played a key role in the Kremlin's aggressive plans for the military invasion of Ukraine, in particular in the Russian military build-up around Ukraine that we all discussed in this very room a year ago.

It should be underlined that according to the intergovernmental Agreement on complementary confidence and security building measures, Belarus had an obligation to inform Ukraine about all military activities conducted on its territory that involved more than 5,000 servicemen or more than 100 battle tanks or more than 150 armoured combat vehicles or more than 75 artillery systems of 100 mm calibre or bigger.

Regrettably, the tragic events of February 2022, when the Russian Federation launched its unprovoked invasion of Ukraine, clearly proved that the Belarusian side violated these provisions of the Agreement and sabotaged its obligations and commitments under the Vienna Documents 2011, Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe and Open Skies Treaty.

Against this backdrop, we find it impossible for Ukraine to continue defence cooperation with Belarus, including within the framework of the bilateral Agreement on complementary confidence and security building measures.

Thank you, Mr Chairperson.