

PC.DEL/279/13

26 April 2013

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,  
AT THE 949th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

25 April 2013

**Regarding the anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster**

Mr. Chairperson,

We associate ourselves with the statement by the permanent representative of Belarus in connection with the anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster, one of the greatest man-made disasters of the twentieth century. The consequences of that tragedy are felt to this day in Belarus, on the territory of Ukraine and in our country.

We agree that international co-operation plays an important role in dealing with the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster and in post-Chernobyl development. Russia will continue to provide Belarus with all possible assistance, both at a bilateral level and within international organizations. There is indeed still much to be done, and only through joint efforts in solidarity with others will it be possible to cope with this task. We also trust that the other OSCE participating States will not remain on the sidelines and will make their contribution, as stipulated in the OSCE Ministerial Declaration adopted in Ljubljana.

Thank you for your attention.