The Permanent Council,

Recalling the Joint Declaration made in Berlin on 2 July 2014 and wishing to contribute to its implementation,

Accepting the invitation of the Russian Federation to deploy OSCE observers to the two Russian border checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo as announced in the Joint Declaration and extended in the letter by the Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov to the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office of 14 July 2014,

Decides:

1. To deploy without delay OSCE observers to the two Russian border checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo on the Russian-Ukrainian border in accordance with the above-mentioned declaration and letter;

2. To task observers, operating under the principles of impartiality and transparency, with monitoring and reporting on the situation at the checkpoints of Donetsk and Gukovo, as well as on the movements across the border;

3. The Observer Mission will be headed by a Chief Observer appointed by the Chairperson in Office in accordance with the provisions of the OSCE Staff Rules and Regulations for the appointment of the heads of mission;

4. The Observer Mission will be deployed for up to three months. The mandate of the mission can be renewed by a decision of the Permanent Council;

5. The Observer Mission will consist of 16 civilian monitors operating 24/7 in teams, and a small logistic and administrative support team;

6. The OSCE observers will have a safe and secure environment to fulfil their mandate;

7. The Chief Observer will regularly report through the Chairmanship to the Permanent Council;
8. To approve the arrangements and the financial and human resources for the Observer Mission as contained in document PC.ACMF/29/14. In this connection, the Permanent Council authorizes the release of 337,800 euros from the 2013 cash surplus;

9. Tasks the Secretary General to immediately finalize with the Russian Federation the practical modalities regarding the deployment of the observers, including the capacities, privileges and immunities, security and safety of the Observer Mission and its members.
INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

By the delegation of Ukraine:

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the decision on the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border, the delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

“Ukraine stands committed to implementation of the Berlin Joint Declaration of 2 July 2014 in its entirety. At the same time we note that since the adoption of the aforementioned Declaration, the security situation in the east of Ukraine has deteriorated due to the activities of the terrorist groups operating in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions, armed with heavy and sophisticated weapons, which are illegally supplied from the Russian territory.

The deployment of the OSCE observers only at two Russian checkpoints will have a marginal effect on addressing the existing grave security concerns, in particular regarding increased flows of weapons, equipment and mercenaries from the Russian Federation into Ukraine.

With a view to contributing to the effective monitoring of the Russian-Ukrainian border and hindering further flows of weapons, equipment and mercenaries from the Russian Federation, more vigorous measures should be taken by the OSCE through deployment of the OSCE observers along Russian-Ukrainian border.

Ukraine calls on the Russian Federation to stop providing assistance to the terrorist organizations in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, establish effective border control on the Ukrainian-Russian border, fully abide by existing relevant agreements in this sphere and finally put an end to the illegal inflow of Russian mercenaries and weaponry to Ukraine.”

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.
INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

By the delegation of the United States of America:

In connection with the adoption of the decision for the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border, the United States would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure.

“The U.S. finds it deeply regrettable that the Russian Federation was only willing to take the minimal steps provided for in this decision. Despite questions and requests from other participating States to expand the geographic scope of the observer mission, Russia would only accept a limited-scope mission, covering just two border checkpoints – which account for approximately one kilometer of the 2,300 kilometer border. We are therefore concerned that due to Russia’s undue restrictions of its work, the mission will be unable to provide a real accounting of the scope of Russia’s flows of illegal arms, funding, and personnel to support the separatists in eastern Ukraine or any meaningful assurance that Russia is acting to stop the illegal flow of arms and other support to separatists in eastern Ukraine.”

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the decision and to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.
INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE

By the delegation of the United Kingdom:

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to make an interpretative statement under the relevant provisions of the OSCE Rules of Procedures.

“The United Kingdom has been ready to join consensus on this decision, and we recognize the hard work of the Chairmanship and the OSCE Secretariat in preparing it. It may make a small contribution towards confidence-building.

But we need to be realistic about what we are agreeing. It will contribute to implementing just one small part of the Berlin Declaration of 2 July.

It does not address the more substantive elements of that Declaration, not least on co-operation and information exchange between Russia and Ukraine – and we encourage Russia to implement these as well as the deployment of OSCE observers.

This decision will not contribute significantly to the stated goal of the Berlin Declaration, of fostering peace and stability in Ukraine. Nor will it deliver effective control of the Ukrainian-Russian border, or help to stem the continuing flow of fighters, money and weapons from Russia into Ukraine.

As my Prime Minister told the House of Commons on 22 July, we continue to hope that Russia will use the current moment to find a path out of this festering and dangerous crisis by ending its support for the separatists. The decision we have adopted today is only the smallest of steps. Much, much more needs to be done.”

I ask that this statement be added to the journal of the day.
By the delegation of Canada:

Mr. Chairperson,

Canada wishes to make an interpretative statement under Paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the OSCE Rules of Procedure in connection with the PC decision on the deployment of OSCE observers to two Russian checkpoints on the Russian-Ukrainian border.

“Canada regrets the limited geographic scope of the observer mission we have just decided upon. This will prevent the mission from providing a credible accounting of the scope of the flows of Russian weapons and militants to support the separatists in eastern Ukraine.

Canada nevertheless joined consensus on the decision just adopted in the hope that this small first step will pave the way for a more ambitious international border monitoring effort along the Russian-Ukrainian border.”

Canada requests that this statement be attached to the decision and reflected in the journal of the day.

Thank you.