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

27 October 2011

Regarding the earthquake in Turkey

Mr. Chairperson,

We associate ourselves with the words of sympathy addressed to our Turkish colleagues in connection with the many human victims and large-scale destruction caused by the powerful earthquake in the east of the country on 23 October.

The President of the Russian Federation, Dmitry Medvedev, and the Chairman of the Russian Government, Vladimir Putin, expressed their condolences to the Turkish leadership and the entire Turkish nation. Russia made it immediately known that it was willing to provide all the assistance needed in dealing with the consequences of this natural disaster. According to the latest information, two planes belonging to the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations are ready to fly to Turkey with relief consignments for the victims.