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Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1579th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

1 October 2026

On the 2027 OSCE Unified Budget Proposal

Mr. Chairperson,
Mr. Secretary General,

We are grateful to the Organization's senior management for having prepared and presented the budget proposal for 2027. We hope that it will be discussed constructively and substantively. We are currently continuing to peruse the document in question, and we should like to state the following by way of preliminary comments.

The adoption of the Unified Budget in 2026 marked an important step towards normalization of the OSCE's work following four challenging years during which it had proved impossible to reach agreement on the scope of funding for the Organization. The principal condition for reaching a consensus was a reduction in the total level of allotments by almost 11 per cent relative to 2021. Russia supported and welcomed that decision, as it has objectively enhanced the viability of our Organization. We are convinced that every effort should be made going forward to maintain the financial efficiency we have achieved.

We note that the proposal under consideration was prepared on the basis of zero real growth and provides for a cost increase of 4.7 million euros, or 3.8 per cent, compared with 2026. However, we would point out that the Russian Federation's basic approach when it comes to the budgeting of any intergovernmental entities, including the OSCE, is zero nominal growth. Exceptions to this rule are possible only for the highest-priority areas of programmatic work, among which we, unquestionably, include conference and linguistic services, as without these services it would be impossible to ensure the smooth functioning of the decision-making bodies.

At the same time, we are of the view that Programmes and Funds engaged in politically imbalanced and biased activities that go far beyond their remits and mandates cannot count on the allocation of additional funding next year. This applies, first and foremost, to institutions in the third dimension.

We note that a significant proportion of the inflation-related increase in costs is attributable to the revision of OSCE staff salaries. We believe that the time has come to consider how to contain this momentum in view of the limited budgetary resources. We are convinced that any further salary alignment,

especially for international contracted posts (the costliest category), under a “business as usual” mode is becoming too prohibitive for our Organization.

As for the Secretary General’s proposal to restructure the Secretariat, we consider it to be quite interesting and that it warrants constructive discussion.

Lastly, we should like to reaffirm our willingness to play an active part in the forthcoming discussions on the document presented today. We trust that the work undertaken by all the delegations will make it possible to adopt the Unified Budget by consensus in a timely manner.

Thank you for your attention.