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**STATEMENT BY
MR. DMITRY POLYANSKIY, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1580th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

8 October 2026

In response to the report by the Head of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat

Mr. Chairperson,
Mr. Leaf,

We thank you for your instructive report on the field operation's activities.

We note the importance of maintaining a high level of co-ordination between the Centre and the host authorities. It is important that the Turkmenistan-OSCE work plan for 2027 on the implementation of the Centre's project activities, which is currently being negotiated, take into account the local authorities' requests and recommendations and be strictly in keeping with the field operation's mandate.

As we see it, key elements of the Centre's work include combating the terrorist threat and the spread of extremist and radical ideologies, along with stemming the flow of funds to, and other forms of support for, terrorists and their accomplices. In that regard, assisting the host country in implementing the recommendations of the Financial Action Task Force and the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism should be regarded as one of the priorities of this OSCE field operation.

We would emphasize that the growing problem of cybercrime calls for intensified efforts to counter such offences. We can see that the Centre is carrying out work in this area, including as part of the assistance provided to the host authorities in enhancing their country's legislation.

We have noticed the increased number of events being implemented through the OSCE in Turkmenistan that have to do with the protection of critical infrastructure. While this work is undoubtedly important, we call upon the Centre's management to follow a balanced approach to project activities in this sensitive area.

There should be no let-up in the work to secure Turkmenistan's land and sea borders and to tackle all forms of transnational organized crime. The Centre's efforts to assist Turkmenistan in training border guards, coastguard experts and law enforcement officers continue to be in demand.

We are pleased to note that the professional development and training courses for specialists from Turkmenistan at relevant Russian educational institutions have proved to be a success, including those dealing with the detection and prevention of drug trafficking. We are ready to continue this practice.

We can see that Turkmenistan is increasingly interested in expanding work on the economic and environmental agenda. We welcome the Centre's activities aimed at improving the investment climate, supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, and promoting renewable and alternative energy. In this regard, we should like to make special mention of the field operation's support for specialized educational institutions in Turkmenistan and youth programmes in the fields of energy and environmental protection.

We note the Centre's efforts in the human dimension of the OSCE. We may single out the field operation's project activities related to combating trafficking in human beings and supporting women's rights.

Mr. Chairperson,

The relations between Russia and Turkmenistan are anchored in deep-rooted and long-standing traditions of friendship and mutual understanding between the peoples of our countries. We appreciate Turkmenistan's neutral status and its balanced position with regard to key issues on the global agenda.

We are supporting Turkmenistan's efforts during its current tenure chairing the Commonwealth of Independent States. We look forward to the continuation of fruitful collaboration both in a bilateral format and at regional and international platforms. We note the high level of co-operation with our colleagues from Turkmenistan at the OSCE.

We will continue to monitor the activities of the OSCE Centre in Ashgabat closely. We expect the field operation's management to continue its work through helpful dialogue with the host country authorities, to avoid bias and politicization, and to take into account the national characteristics and traditions of Turkmenistan.

In closing, we should like to wish you, Mr. Leaf, and your team every success in your future work.

Thank you for your attention.