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STATEMENT BY MR. DMITRY BALAKIN, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1193rd MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL

19 July 2018

On the high-level European Union event on climate, peace and security

Mr. Chairperson,

We were interested to hear the information provided by the representative of the European Union on the high-level event held in Brussels on 22 June on climate, peace and security.

Russia shares the international community's concern at the growing negative impact of human activity on the environment and the possible climate changes brought about by it. Our country is one of the main participants in the international climate process and consistently calls for a consolidated effort by all countries without exception in this matter. We make a substantial contribution to the implementation of agreed documents in this area and participate actively in negotiations under the umbrella of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

At the same time, we believe that the situation should not be dramatized, as this is not conducive to the achievement of long-term universal agreements. In our view, the elaboration of significant practical measures to reduce the negative impact of human beings on the climate is not helped by the politicization of the discussion, which is inevitable if the OSCE is actively involved in it. We believe that there are sufficient international forums and formats with the expert potential required for comprehensive consideration of the problem.

Thank you for your attention.