



Permanent Mission of Ukraine
to the International
Organizations in Vienna

**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
in response to the address by Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and
Environmental Activities Ambassador Bakyt Dzhusupov**

1494th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council

31 October 2024

On behalf of the delegation of Ukraine, I would like to thank Ambassador Dzhusupov, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, for his report.

We took note of the information presented in the document.

The Ukrainian delegation would like to take this opportunity to express its gratitude for the important work that the OCEEA has been implementing in Ukraine since the beginning of Russia's full-scale war.

During that time, the Office demonstrated its proactive approach and willingness to make a real difference for people on the ground. Notably, important projects were launched, including the extra-budgetary project "Assessment of environmental impacts of the war against Ukraine and options for remediation".

In the framework of this project a comprehensive assessment of the environmental damage caused by Russia has been already done. This part of the OCEEA's work is extremely important, as this assessment can be used in the future when it comes to recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine, as well as holding Russia accountable for its environmental crimes in Ukraine.

Currently, separate in-depth assessments in the different areas are carried out. Together with our partners and donors of the project, we organized a side-event in Prague, which built on the outcomes of the project and focused on the devastating impacts of the Russian war on water sources in Ukraine.

This event allowed participating states to better understand how the OSCE contributes to addressing and mitigating the environmental consequences of the

Russian invasion. In addition, this experience can be further incorporated in the OSCE expertise in addressing issues related to deliberate man-made disasters.

In this regard, we would also like to express our gratitude to the OCEEA team for their assistance and engagement in organising the mentioned side-event. This type of activities should be continued, and we stand ready to work closely with the OCEEA and our partners to organise other productive events of the same nature.

Along with this, the OCEEA is implementing other important projects in our country, which are very different, but have the unifying component of contributing to Ukraine's resilience in the context of the Russian war.

We would like to reiterate our full support for the ongoing OCEEA projects on promoting energy resilience considering climate change, digitalization and combating money laundering among others. We appreciate that these projects have also been adjusted to the challenges stemming from the ongoing aggression.

We encourage the OCEEA to continue this important work and look forward to new possible projects in line with evolving security situation. The OCEEA's mandate in the field of economic and environmental aspects of the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security, as well as the expertise and experience acquired over the years, naturally fit this task.

Dear colleagues,

The OCEEA's work in Ukraine has been relevant and productive, also due to the generous financial support of many partner delegations. We are grateful for all this support.

This work also demonstrates that the OSCE remains the relevant organization on the ground, responding to urgent needs of people affected by war.

Despite all the turbulence and chaos that Russia's presence in all international fora causes, the OSCE's response through efficient and result-oriented projects is the best vaccine against Russia's attempts to disrupt the OSCE's activities by abusing the consensus rule.

Dear Ambassador Dzhusupov,

Our delegation highly values the work of your office, and we hope that your leadership will ensure that the consequences of Russia's war are addressed properly and in the most effective manner.

We wish you all the best in your future endeavours. We assure you that you can always count on the support and active cooperation of our delegation.

Thank you.