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**STATEMENT BY
AMBASSADOR KAIRAT SARYBAY,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF KAZAKHSTAN,
ALSO ON BEHALF OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES OF
ARMENIA, BELARUS, KYRGYZSTAN, THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
TAJIKISTAN AND TURKMENISTAN, AT THE 1050th MEETING OF
THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

7 May 2015

**On the 70th anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War of
1941 to 1945**

Mr. Chairperson,

Seven decades separate us from the historic Victory in the Great Patriotic War of 1941 to 1945. That is a long time, but the peoples of our countries remember everything about that war: deprivation and hunger, bombing and death, and the fearful numbers of our losses, especially the millions of human lives.

On the battlefields and the labour front, the harsh war years clearly revealed the indestructible friendship and supreme patriotism of our peoples, who, standing shoulder to shoulder, won a common Victory. The great legacy of the Victory is today an important spiritual value and a moral compass for the post-war generations in establishing a just and secure world. For this reason, 9 May, Victory Day, will forever remain a symbol of self-sacrifice and heroism in defending the freedom and independence of our peoples and in saving humanity from the threat of fascist enslavement.

In this context, we welcome the Ministerial Commemorative Declaration on the Seventieth Anniversary of the End of the Second World War, adopted on 5 December 2014 at the Basel Ministerial Council meeting.

We have never set our Victory apart from that of others, and we will always remember the help we received from our allies – the United States of America, the United Kingdom, France, other States of the anti-Hitler coalition and European anti-fascists. Today we pay tribute to the courage of all those Europeans who resisted Nazism.

History teaches that States and peoples must try not to overlook how new lethal doctrines arise and how, and from what, new threats emerge. The war's lessons admonish us that complicity in violence, apathy, and waiting inevitably lead to dreadful tragedies on a

global scale. For this reason, the world's States must forge relations that are not only held together by the lessons of the past, but are also anchored in our common future.

The perception of the Victory of 1945 as a common value of humanity was confirmed by the unanimous adoption, on 26 February 2015, of the United Nations General Assembly resolution entitled "Seventieth anniversary of the end of the Second World War". In this resolution, the international community called for the observance of 8 and 9 May in an appropriate manner to pay tribute to all victims of the Second World War. The resolution recalls the indissoluble tie between the end of that war and the founding of the United Nations.

The subsequent establishment of regional and subregional organizations under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations was a significant historical achievement whose roots go back 70 years. As OSCE participating States, we also talk about another landmark date – the 40th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, signed on 1 August 1975, which plays an important role in contemporary international relations.

We categorically do not accept and resolutely reject the purposeful attempts that have been made to rewrite history, to distort and revise the outcome of the Second World War. We consider inadmissible any attempts to glorify Nazism and militant nationalism. We believe that all countries should do everything within their power to counter manifestations of neo-fascism, chauvinism, hatred based on nationality or religion, and all forms of xenophobia.

Our States, confirming their adherence to the universally recognized principles and norms of international law and the provisions of the United Nations Charter and the Helsinki Final Act, call for active co-operation to strengthen global security and stability, for enhancing the efforts to combat international terrorism and extremism, and for the peaceful political settlement of existing conflicts and the avoidance of other possible ones.

Our States will continue to do everything in their power to strengthen multilateral co-operation with the international community in order to ensure sustained peaceful development and progress.

Mr. Chairperson, we request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.