



DELEGATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN
TO THE OSCE

**Statement by Ambassador Kairat Sarybay, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the International Organizations in Vienna at the 1195th meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council in response to the reports by Ambassador Martin Sajdik, Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group and Ambassador Ertuğrul Apakan, Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine
(27 September 2018)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairman,

We warmly welcome the Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, Ambassador Ertugrul Apakan back to the Permanent Council meeting and thank him for provided updates. We wish fast recovery to the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson in Office in Ukraine and in the Trilateral Contact Group, Ambassador Martin Sajdik. We reiterate our strong support to the activities of SMM where already 5 Kazakhstan representatives contribute to the work of Mission and endorse the Trilateral Contact Group and its working groups.

We welcome the results of the last TCG meeting in Minsk on 19 September 2018. We were glad to hear about accomplishment of the first stage of repair works of Yuzhnodonbasska water pipeline in Avdiivka industrial zone.

We also welcome the work of TCG Working group on security issues aiming at cessation of fire, demining, withdrawal of heavy weapons and implementation of the TCG Framework Decision on disengagement of forces and hardware.

In Humanitarian Working Group, we commend Ambassador Toni Frisch's field trip to the conflict affected areas on both sides of the contact line and his visit to 11 detention places in Kharkiv, Starobilsk, Donetsk, Luhansk and Bakhmut.

We are seriously concerned about situation in east of Ukraine, latest reports from SMM indicate that sides failed to implement measure that would ensure adherence to a comprehensive and sustainable ceasefire. The widespread presence of mines and other unexploded ordnance put civilian lives at risk.

We are also concerned about 30% increase in the number of restrictions of the freedom of movement of SMM monitors to the fulfillment of their mandate. We call for full, safe and unhindered access for the SMM monitors throughout Ukraine and full transparency in the conflict zone which is an essential requirement for confidence building.

We commend efforts of SMM to support the sides in finding local level solutions to enable the start of repairs to essential civilian infrastructure objects. We were able to learn more about it during Ambassador Apakan's presentation at the Economic and Environmental Committee this year in July. As discussed in the

committee, we would appreciate if SMM continues its work on environmental issues.

In addition to that, I would like to highlight our readiness to promote measures and tools that might be conducive to confidence and security-building with regard to the situation in and around Ukraine through the second dimension according to the priorities of the Italian Chairmanship. In this regard, we need fully tap constructive potential of the economic and environmental dimension.

Keeping in mind that a strong political will remains a key precondition in the process of settlement of the Ukrainian crisis, we recognize the importance of the Minsk agreements, and constantly call for compliance with these agreements as the only currently available mechanism for the peaceful settlement.

Kazakhstan supports sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine and continues to participate in multilateral consultations on the search of settlement of the conflict. President Nursultan Nazarbayev significantly contributed to the launch of “Normandy Format” and many times expressed the readiness of Kazakhstan to render all possible assistance in the process of peaceful settlement of the situation in the south-east of Ukraine.

In conclusion, I would like to wish Ambassador Apakan and Ambassador Sajdik and their able teams all the success in accomplishing the important tasks ahead of them.

I thank you.