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Delegation of Canada to the OSCE

Délégation du Canada auprès de l'OSCE

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR JOCELYN KINNEAR ON THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ONGOING AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE 1480th MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

4 July 2024

Madam Chair,

It has been 861 days since Russia unilaterally chose to unleash a war of aggression upon Ukraine." In the two weeks since we last met, Ukraine has suffered relentless attacks against its people and infrastructure. Civilian casualties are recorded on a near daily basis in settlements near the front lines, among them many children.

On 29 June, Russia attacked the town of Vilniansk near Zaporizhzhia, reportedly killing seven people, three of them children, and injuring 38, nine of them children.

The next day, this past Sunday, Ukrainian officials reported that glide bombs struck Kharkiv, killing one person and injuring nine people, among them an 8-month-old baby. President Zelenskyy said that only in the last week Russia has dropped over 800 such bombs on Ukraine. Glide bombs weight at least a ton, blow their targets into pieces and leave behind huge craters.

And yesterday morning, at least five civilians were killed and over 47 injured, among them a child, in Russian strikes on the city of Dnipro.

In Chernihiv oblast, over 1,700 people in 12 settlements have been cut off the power grid because of damage from Russian attacks on the 14 and 15 June. There are now rolling blackouts across Ukraine, and Ukrenergo estimates that Ukrainians may get only 5-6 hours of power a day come the winter due to the damage sustained from Russia's relentless bombardment of civilian energy infrastructure, potentially causing a humanitarian crisis.

The International Criminal Court issued arrest warrants for the Chief of the General Staff of the Armed Forces and First Deputy Minister of Defence of Russia for alleged responsibility for war crimes and crimes against humanity due to the destruction of civilian objects.

Madam Chair,

The war against Ukraine concerns us all.

According to a new report, in two years the war produced more greenhouse gases than the annual emissions generated individually by 175 countries, exacerbating the global climate emergency.

The President of Ghana said during the Summit on Peace in Ukraine that Africa has been among the greatest victims of this war. Global trade supply chains, and the blockade of the Black Sea have devastated African economies, standards of living, and food prices. Russia is jeopardizing global food security by bombing and mining the world's breadbasket.

Furthermore, Russia continues to actively undermine the legal and normative systems which keeps us all safe and provide all countries protections and recourses to avoid conflict.

Madam Chair,

Canada remains steadfast in our support for Ukraine.

We committed support at the Ukraine Peace Summit to assist vulnerable Ukrainians, ensure their safety, and help Ukraine rebuild its infrastructure.

Canada stands ready to provide \$5 billion in funding through the G7 Extraordinary Revenue Acceleration Loans initiative, to bring forward future revenues from frozen Russian sovereign assets to support Ukraine.

Canada stands with Ukraine until it succeeds in achieving a just and sustainable peace