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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1397th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

3 November 2022

On dangerous provocations by the Kyiv regime with the support of a Western alliance of OSCE participating States, and on the regime's ongoing crimes against the civilian population

Mr. Chairperson,

In the early hours of 29 October, the Kyiv regime carried out a terrorist attack against ships of Russia's Black Sea fleet and civilian vessels involved in ensuring the safety of the "grain corridor" under the international initiative to export agricultural products from Ukrainian ports. Nine unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) and seven unmanned surface vehicles were used in the attack. They were launched from the coast near Odessa and followed, among other routes, a section of the water route used as part of the aforementioned corridor. The appearance of a Sicilian-based US-made Northrop Grumman RQ-4B Global Hawk UAV off the coast of Crimea is also no coincidence.

The preparation of the terrorist attack and the training of troops of the Ukrainian 73rd Maritime Special Operations Centre were overseen by British specialists based in the town of Ochakiv in the Mykolaiv region of Ukraine. In addition, according to the available information, members of the British Royal Navy were involved in the planning, support and execution of the terrorist attack in the Baltic Sea on 26 September to blow up the Nord Stream 1 and Nord Stream 2 gas pipelines. In this connection, the British Ambassador has been summoned to the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs today, according to a Russian foreign ministry spokesperson.

The attack by Ukrainian formations on Sevastopol severely hampered the implementation of the grain deal, which led to the suspension of our country's participation in it. Following commitments received from the Kyiv regime with the assistance of Türkiye not to use the grain corridor for military purposes, Russia has resumed facilitating safe grain exports. We reserve the right to withdraw from the deal if these commitments are violated.

It should be noted that questions about the operation of the aforementioned grain export scheme have been piling up for a long time. We will not dwell in detail on why something that was initially portrayed as a humanitarian initiative ended up being a commercial one. Why there are obvious problems with the second part of the grain deal, under which the United Nations-brokered unblocking of Russian fertilizer and grain exports is to be enforced. Why only 4 per cent of all grain shipments went to countries in genuine need,

while 46 per cent went to European Union countries. Indeed, why it is that most of the grain exported ended up in countries that are clearly not impoverished. We merely wish to note that the guarantees received that this corridor will not be used for military purposes may indeed contribute to some normalization of the situation. Russia will monitor how they are implemented.

According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, strikes aimed at neutralizing the Ukrainian formations' military command centres and the energy infrastructure used for this purpose are continuing as part of the special military operation. We would point out that the Kyiv regime's foreign handlers persist in persuading it to shun diplomatic negotiation efforts to resolve the disagreements that have piled up. Moreover, they are investing in its further military provisioning. In any case, the conditions for such a dialogue will ripen as the military capabilities deployed by the Kyiv regime are dismantled. For now, one thing is clear: the prolongation of the armed confrontation and its "fuelling" is one of the medium-term goals of the collective West in Ukraine.

The other day, the United States of America announced a new package of 275 million dollars in military funding to the regime, which will be used, among other things, for ammunition for NATO weapons deployed in Ukraine, including HIMARS multiple-launch rocket systems. We have noted an increasing number of cases of the criminal use of these systems to target civilian infrastructure, causing casualties among the civilian population. These include the long-suffering Antonivskiy Bridge, the civilian crossing in Kherson, the cancer clinic in the same city and a number of social facilities in the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics, including children's medical facilities, and so on.

As for other dangerous weapons, including man-portable missile systems, with which a number of NATO countries have literally flooded Ukraine, their flow to the black market is taking on increasingly threatening proportions. We note the reports of steps taken by the United States to tighten control over its protégés in Kyiv in this regard – this is clearly indicative of the scale of the problem. It is also noteworthy that the International Criminal Police Organization's (INTERPOL) grim prognoses of the weapons handed over to Ukraine falling into the hands of criminals have come true. A characteristic piece on the subject appeared in the Finnish publication Yle, which reported, citing law enforcement data, that organized criminal groups in Finland, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands had received NATO weapons destined for Ukrainian formations.

The Kyiv regime is continuing its irresponsible nuclear blackmail. This includes not only work to create a "dirty bomb", but also attempts to destabilize the situation at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. Over the past week, the territory near the nuclear power plant was again subjected to shelling by the Ukrainian armed forces, also from NATO artillery. Another unsuccessful attempt was made to dispatch a Ukrainian sabotage group, which landed near the plant via the Dnieper River in the early hours of 29 October and was neutralized by the plant's defenders.

Incidentally, we often hear propaganda about alleged Russian shelling of the plant in this room. Putting aside the absurdity of such claims (after all, the plant is Russian-owned and guarded by the Russian National Guard), we emphasize that such accusations contradict even the Kyiv regime's official data. For example, the Prosecutor General's Office of Ukraine recently published information according to which it recorded only one alleged instance of Russian shelling in March – and that was during the change of control at the plant. After that, according to the Prosecutor General's Office, the Russian military did not shell the plant. In essence, an admission has finally been made by the Kyiv regime that all shelling of the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant is carried out by Ukrainian formations.

Returning to the absurdity of the accusations against our country, we draw attention to the extremely remarkable reaction of the Permanent Representative of the European Union at the last Permanent Council meeting to the clarifications we made regarding Russia's defence doctrine. We heard it as if the very

references to this doctrine, which deals exclusively with the defence of the territory of our country and our allies in the event of aggression, were elements of some kind of “Russian nuclear blackmail”. Well, reread the text of the doctrine.

If you do, you will be able to draw quite logical conclusions. Perhaps our former Western partners simply do not understand the content of the document. Or rather, they understand everything but are deliberately manipulating the meaning by distorting its content. Perhaps they are openly admitting that, with their actions in Ukraine, they are deliberately modelling for Russia such risks that would threaten the very existence of the Russian State. The latter, however, may well be in line with the support for the neo-Nazi regime in Ukraine, whose officials (we have already mentioned their names) do not hide their dreams of dismembering Russia. The words of Volodymyr Zelenskyy, who told Czech television on 1 November that nuclear war is not even worth fearing, should probably be seen in the same light.

One further point. For a number of years, the Russian Federation has been drawing attention to the military biological activities conducted by the Pentagon and its subordinate entities in the post Soviet-space in the immediate vicinity of Russia’s borders, notably in Ukraine. The programme is run by the Pentagon’s Defense Threat Reduction Agency, with private companies including Black & Veatch, CH2M, Hill and Metabiota involved in its execution.

In the course of the special military operation, materials have been obtained that reveal the true nature of the United States’ military and biological activity in Ukraine. Analysis of these materials points to non-compliance by the US Government and the Kyiv regime with the provisions of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction (BTWC), in particular Articles I and IV. We note the lack of a substantive response by the United States and the Kyiv regime to the aforementioned concerns, including the failure to provide explanations under the BTWC mechanisms.

We see how the United States has not abandoned its attempts to influence issues connected with biological security, including through the capabilities of the OSCE. These activities were already carried out as part of the non-consensus extrabudgetary project activities of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine, which lost its mandate on 1 July this year. There are now plans to carry out such activities within the framework of our Organization’s extrabudgetary activities that will be launched on 1 November as part of the co-operation with institutions in Ukraine dealing with pathogens and biomaterials. We emphasize that none of this was approved by all the participating States. However, we will talk about this separately today. What we have here is the promotion of the interests of a small group of countries through non-consensus mechanisms under the guise of the whole Organization. The motives of the United States, which is one of the main sponsors of the dubious biological projects in Ukraine, are plain to see. However, against this background, it is not at all clear why such projects should be implemented at the expense of the credibility of the entire Organization.

The Russian special military operation will carry on and continue to be conducted in a consistent and responsible manner. It is aimed at protecting Donbas, denazifying and demilitarizing Ukraine, and eliminating threats to the security of the Russian Federation created by the West on Ukrainian territory. These objectives will be accomplished fully. Russia is willing to engage in substantive dialogue on eliminating these threats as soon as possible – dialogue that must, unquestionably, take into account the realities that have arisen.

Thank you for your attention.