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**STATEMENT BY MR. ALEXANDER LUKASHEVICH,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 1095th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

7 April 2016

Regarding Ms. Nadiya Savchenko

Mr. Chairperson,

The lawyers of Nadiya Savchenko communicated that she did not intend to appeal against the sentence handed down by the court.

On 5 April 2016, the sentence against Ms. Savchenko for the death of Russian journalists in Donbas in summer 2014 entered into force. She received a penalty of 22 years of deprivation of liberty in a general-regime corrective colony and a fine of 30,000 roubles. The time spent in pre-trial detention counts towards the sentence served.

It is now valid to talk about Ms. Savchenko as a person guilty of killing people. In quite a few OSCE participating States, the death penalty might be applied for this type of crime. There are also well-known cases of the mass murder of civilians from air strikes, such as those on the trauma centre in Kunduz (Afghanistan), for which those responsible got off lightly with a reprimand.

Turning to the observance of Ms. Savchenko's rights as a prisoner, these are respected. She has access to the consulate. She has been given the opportunity to talk with her compatriots (yesterday, judging by reports from Ukrainian media, the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko had a telephone conversation with her).

Lastly, we draw our colleagues' attention to the point that, when referring to Ms. Savchenko's appointment as delegate to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (she was nominated after she had been detained), it would not be out of place to ask to what extent the actions of a forward air controller who chooses to target journalists tally with the duties of a deputy in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

Thank you for your attention.