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**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 974th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

28 November 2013

Regarding the Transdniestrian settlement

Mr. Chairperson,

We too are grateful to the Chairmanship for the information on the results of the latest round of political talks in the “5+2” format held this week in Kyiv. We share the opinion regarding the importance of the agreements reached during that meeting.

We believe it is to the credit of the OSCE Chairmanship and the Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office, Ambassador Andrii Deshchytsia, personally that despite all the difficulties at the beginning of the year it proved possible to maintain the momentum of the negotiation process on the Transdniestrian settlement, to hold all the planned “5+2” meetings and to resume the practice of direct contacts between the leaders of Moldova and Transdniestria.

Concrete results, albeit modest ones, have been achieved in resolving practical issues affecting the lives of the residents on both banks of the Dniester. In particular, we note the agreements reached at the Kyiv meeting on freedom of movement, social issues, the dismantling of the cable car between Rybnitsa and Rezina, and waste treatment facilities in Dubossary.

The Ukrainian Chairmanship has focused its efforts on achieving results in the negotiation process for a settlement to the Transdniestrian conflict. We trust that the next Chairmanships will do the same.

Thank you for your attention.