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**STATEMENT BY
MR. MAXIM BUYAKEVICH, DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1429th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

22 June 2023

**On the results of the meeting of the
Council of Foreign Ministers of the Collective Security Treaty Organization**

Mr. Chairperson,

We attach great importance to the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) held in Minsk on 20 June. We note the efforts of the Republic of Belarus, as the country chairing the CSTO, to promote the common agenda of the Organization and to ensure the practical implementation of the agreements.

During the meeting, the participants discussed in detail international and regional security and exchanged views on further steps to develop the external relations of the Organization. The heads of the CSTO foreign ministries outlined the key areas of co-operation within the Organization for the current year, taking into account the priorities of Belarus's Chairmanship.

A number of substantive documents were approved, including agreements and protocols to improve the functioning of the Secretariat and the statutory organs of the Organization, to enhance co-ordination between them and to address current administrative and budgetary issues.

At the initiative of Russia, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the CSTO Member States adopted two major documents dealing with regional and international security: a joint statement on the situation in Afghanistan and a joint statement on the prevention of an arms race in outer space.

The preparations for the session of the CSTO Collective Security Council, scheduled for the second half of 2023 in Minsk, were considered.

We believe that the meeting of the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers was very useful. A detailed discussion of the development of the geopolitical situation in our region and on the Eurasian continent as a whole showed the closeness of the positions of the Member States on most issues. One unifying point is the fact that all members of the Organization are in favour of the CSTO becoming stronger and more successful as one of the pillars of a multipolar world order.

We trust that the joint efforts within the CSTO of the Russian Federation, the Republic of Armenia, the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and the Republic of Tajikistan will continue to be an important factor in the strengthening of stability and security on the Eurasian continent.

Thank you for your attention.