The OSCE Secretariat bears no responsibility for the content of this document and circulates it without altering its content. The distribution by OSCE Conference Services of this document is without prejudice to OSCE decisions, as set out in documents agreed by OSCE participating States.

PC.DEL/987/23 17 July 2023

ENGLISH only



Permanent Mission of Ukraine

to the International Organizations in Vienna

Statement in reply to the AOB issue "On the NATO Summit in Vilnius, 11-12 July 2023" raised by Lithuania

As for delivery by Ambassador Yevhenii Tsymbaliuk, Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna, to the 1432nd meeting of the OSCE Permanent Council
13 July 2023

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to thank Lithuania for raising this issue and congratulate it on the successful conduct of the NATO Summit in Vilnius as well as to express gratitude for the warm welcome and hospitality extended to the Ukrainian delegation.

As President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy emphasized, we are "grateful to all the leaders, all NATO countries for their very practical and unprecedented support for Ukraine [...] we have security guarantees for Ukraine on the way to NATO - a very important package of guarantees".

The Summit's outcomes have also clearly displayed that a pro-Ukrainian coalition remains strong and consolidated as well as rests on our commitments to the shared values and principles, common understanding of threats faced by our countries and joint vision of a way ahead.

We also welcome the G7 Leaders' Declaration adopted at the NATO Vilnius Summit, which has launched practical work on specific, bilateral, long-term security commitments and arrangements with Ukraine aligned with the multilateral framework.

This Allies' commitment to further step up political and practical support to Ukraine is of crucial importance while our country pursues a pathway toward future membership in the Euro-Atlantic community.

The Summit has opened up completely new security opportunities for Ukraine as well as reconfirmed that the future of Ukraine is in NATO. When implemented, this would be the practical manifestation of a sovereign right of every OSCE participating State to freely choose alliances as the Helsinki Final Act provides for.

Likewise, Ukraine's accession to NATO would be the best investment in Euro-Atlantic security for decades.

In conclusion, we express once again our gratitude to our partners for their support and for standing side by side with Ukraine throughout our defense against the russian aggression as well as look forward to future NATO Summit in Washington, which, we believe, will be also marked with significant and far-reaching decisions aimed to improve and consolidate our common security.

I thank you, Mr. Chairperson.