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**STATEMENT BY
AMBASSADOR GESA BRÄUTIGAM, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, AT THE 1384th MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

28 July 2022

**On the invocation of the Moscow Mechanism in relation to serious human rights
violations in the Russian Federation**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Federal Republic of Germany expressly supports the fact that 38 participating States are today activating the Moscow Mechanism. Germany shares the profound concern which my Icelandic counterpart has just conveyed on behalf of the activating States, namely that the Russian Federation is systematically not fulfilling its OSCE commitments in the human dimension of security.

The group of activating States intends to appoint an expert from Germany as the rapporteur. Accordingly, Germany was unable to join the group, since in line with paragraph 10 of the Document of the 1991 Moscow Meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimension of the CSCE, the rapporteur or rapporteurs may not be “nationals or residents of, or persons appointed to the resource list by[,] any of the States concerned”.

Permit me now to comment briefly on the remarks by the representative of the Belarusian delegation.

The Moscow Mechanism is an instrument that provides an unbiased and factual basis for further dialogue and action. I would remind you that this instrument was established by consensus by all participating States and is meant to help us in implementing our shared commitments in the human dimension. The Mechanism allows the participating State concerned – in this case the Russian Federation – to contribute to the report in good faith and take part constructively in the collaborative efforts. I hereby explicitly urge the Russian Federation to do so.

At the Astana Summit in 2010, all the participating States reaffirmed that “the commitments undertaken in the field of the human dimension are matters of legitimate and direct concern to all participating States and do not belong exclusively to the internal affairs of the State concerned.” The Russian Federation undertook the OSCE commitments voluntarily, not least those in the human dimension, which includes the associated mechanisms. It is important that Russia should also honour these commitments.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day. Thank you.