

PC.DEL/1010/12
9 November 2012

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

Delegation of the Russian Federation

**STATEMENT BY MR. ANDREY KELIN,
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION,
AT THE 929th MEETING OF THE OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

8 November 2012

In response to the statement by the Permanent Representative of Latvia

Mr. Chairperson,

We listened attentively to the statement by the Permanent Representative of Latvia, who expressed concern over the march in Moscow on 4 November, which was organized by a number of nationalist movements, and over the fact that hands were raised in Nazi salutes and racist and nationalist slogans were heard during the march.

I should like to point out in this regard that both in our society and at the governmental level such demonstrations are seen in a negative light. However, there was no legal basis for banning this march. Unfortunately, a number of incidents occurred during the march. The law enforcement bodies detained several persons for violating the procedures for conducting mass events established under the law.

Incidents of this kind indicate that any manifestations of extremism and neo-Nazism should be combated jointly at an international level, starting with the adoption of decisions by the largest international organizations. In this context, the Russian Federation has submitted a proposal for adoption at the 67th session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the "Inadmissibility of certain practices that contribute to the escalation of contemporary forms of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance". Russia urgently calls on all member States of the United Nations to align themselves with this resolution.

Within the OSCE, too, it would be important for a separate decision to be adopted at the upcoming Ministerial Council meeting in Dublin on combating aggressive nationalism, violent extremism, neo-Nazism and neo-fascism. A draft decision to this effect has been circulated by the delegations of Russia and Belarus.

Thank you for your attention.