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**STATEMENT BY
MR. ANDREY KELIN, PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION, AT THE 1062nd MEETING OF THE
OSCE PERMANENT COUNCIL**

16 July 2015

**Regarding the erection of new border signs on the
South Ossetian-Georgian border**

Mr. Chairperson,

We should like to make the following comments in response to the remarks by the distinguished Ambassador of Georgia regarding the alleged erection of new border signs and the movement of the boundary line of the South Ossetian-Georgian border.

According to our information, this relates to the re-erection of border information signs, by the decision of the authorities of the Republic of South Ossetia, in their former locations along the State border between the Republic of South Ossetia and Georgia that were deliberately damaged by Georgia on 8 April this year. The representatives of South Ossetia and Russia have repeatedly drawn the attention of the Georgian representatives to the inadmissibility of such actions – at the 54th meeting under the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism (IPRM) on 29 April in Ergneti and at the 32nd round of the Geneva International Discussions on security and stability in the Trans-Caucasus on 1 July this year.

We should like to take this opportunity to urge our colleagues once again not to exaggerate invented stories, but to resolve all issues connected with the boundary line through direct negotiations with the Abkhazian and South Ossetian neighbours with the aim of jointly achieving the delimitation and demarcation of the borders with the two republics. Sukhum and Tskhinval are willing to co-operate in this area.

Thank you for your attention.