



Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine at the 758-th FSC Plenary Meeting (18 June 2014 at 10.00, Hofburg)

Mr. Chairman, Distinguished colleagues,

Since the inception of his term in office plans and actions of President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko are aimed at ensuring lasting peace and guarantee reliable security to the country. The President set out a peace plan to end violence in the east of the country. The plan contains important steps aimed at restoring peace and order as well as ensuring the safety and legitimate interests of the citizens of Donetsk and Luhansk regions. Military situation there remains tense and from Ukraine's perspective deserves further attention of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation.

Despite the efforts of the Russian Federation to show the situation in Donbass as an internal Ukrainian conflict, there are all grounds to state that the Russian Federation continues its military aggression against Ukraine. We register further flows of mercenaries, money and weapons from the Russian Federation in those parts of the state border of Ukraine which are adjacent to the areas of terrorist activities.

Active movement of military units, weapons and equipment of the Russian Armed Forces in proximity to the state border with Ukraine is again the reason for security concern. Approximately 13 thousand Russian troops are deployed in this area, including 6,5 thousand directed on Donetsk region, 4,1 thousand directed on Luhansk and Kharkiv regions, 2,5 thousand directed on Sumy and Chernihiv regions. Should this Russian military presence alongside the state border with Ukraine is not reasonably explained within the FSC plenary meetings, it, from Ukraine's perspective, requires the activation of the risk reduction mechanism, envisaged in the Chapter III of the Vienna Document. Furthermore, on the territory of Rostov region adjacent to Ukraine hundreds of mercenaries and saboteurs are being concentrated. They are ready for the deployment on Ukraine's territory and have trucks and armored combat vehicles in their possession.

From the territory of the Russian Federation the armed militants, weapons and military equipment continue to reach Ukrainian territory. There are numerous evidences that this process goes on due to inaction of and support by the Russian authorities, while they try to convince that terrorists act on their own and make at the same time attempts to justify terrorist activities of LNR and DNR.

As you are all aware, on 14 June 2014 military transportation aircraft IL-76 of the 25-th air-brigade of Ukrainian Air-Forces was shot down by the terrorists, who used MANPAD "Igla". Two launches were made as the aircraft was preparing to land on the air-field "Luhansk". 40 paratroopers and 9 members of the crew lost their lives. Ukrainian military servicemen found on the spot three MANPAD

launchers, two of them were fired, one – with technical defect (rocket remained in the launcher), from which terrorists launched the rockets. The markings of these weapons show that they were not previously in the possession of the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The terrorist organization LNR took responsibility for this insidious crime. The Ukrainian Government condemned this act of terrorism and a Day of mourning was announced in Ukraine last Sunday. Delegation of Ukraine avails itself of this opportunity to thank all the colleagues who expressed their condolences on that tragic occasion.

The Russian side cynically closed the eyes on this inhuman act of its clientele. Russia did not make any step to distance from these criminals and to condemn their terrorist acts against Ukrainian citizens and military servicemen. Furthermore Russia blocked issuing the statement of the UNSC Chairman, which was aimed at condemnation of this terrorist act.

Mr. Chairman,

In the zone of the Antiterrorist operation Ukrainian authorities register the increase of illegal weapons, which are used by separatists groups. In this context let me show you some photos of the MANPADs captured from the terrorists in Donetsk and Luhansk regions (*attached to this statement*). On 6 June 2014 after armed militants failed to seize the border control point Marynivka, pertaining to Donetsk border control unit, the boxes for MANPADs "Igla" and remnants of their usage were discovered there. According to inventory list in the box, since 2001 the MANPADs were stored in the military unit № 33859 of the Russian air-defense located in Eisk, Krasnodar region. The latest checking of these weapons in the storage facility of this military unit is dated of 12 April 2014.

In this context we demand clarification from Delegation of the Russian Federation on how the terrorists managed to arm themselves by the MANPADs "Igla", stored in the Russian military base, and used them on the territory of Ukraine.

Should such transfers of the MANPADs to terrorists were carried out by Russian authorities, they constitute not only the blatant intervention of the Russian Federation in the internal affairs of Ukraine and support of terrorism as such, but also the violation by Russia of its international obligations concerning control on storage and transfer of MANPADs in the framework of Wassenaar Arrangement – "Elements of export control on MANPADS".

In the zone of ATO the terrorists started to use another powerful weapon – multi-launch rocket system BM-21 "GRAD". They used this weapon in Dobropolje, Amvrosiivka and in the vicinity of Luhansk against the civilian objects and dwellings. This was made to make the National Guard of Ukraine accountable for the loss of lives and property of innocent civilians, thus bringing about hostile sentiments against the ATO. In the GRAD rocket system, which was captured near Dobropolje by Ukrainian servicemen, the proofs found provide that this peace of military equipment belongs to the 18th Russian mobile infantry brigade (military unit 27777) stationed in the South military district of the Russian

Federation. As far as the Ukrainian National Guard is concerned, according to the law it is not armed with GRAD system and therefore it has not been used by it.

It is also worth mentioning that on 12 June 2014 three battle tanks with Russian flags appeared in small city of Snezhnoe of Donetsk region. Two of them were later hit by the Ukrainian military servicemen.

These facts eloquently show the new trend in terrorist activities in Donbas – increasing use of heavy armaments against the background of wide spread of SALW among the militants. Another dangerous trend is massive shooting on civilian dwelling in order to discredit the ATO. The terrorists consistently use Russian state symbols to encourage the Russian Federation's direct military intervention in Donbas.

The Ukrainian side demands the Russian side to stop unlawful military, logistical and other support of terrorist organizations DNR and LNR, to cease infiltration of Russian armed groups and militants through the state border with Ukraine, to exercise its influence on armed separatists to lay down their weapons and renounce violence and to withdraw Russian troops from the Ukrainian borders to avoid miscalculation and further aggravation of situation around Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr.Chairman.









