

**Chairmanship: Malta**

**742nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Friday, 24 January 2014

Opened: 11 a.m.

Closed: 12.30 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador K. Azzopardi

3. Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT OF THE MALTA FSC  
CHAIRMANSHIP BY H.E. DR. GEORGE W. VELLA,  
MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF MALTA

Chairperson, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta (FSC.DEL/1/14 OSCE+), Greece-European Union (with the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/3/14 OSCE+), Luxembourg (Annex 1), Switzerland (Annex 2), Tunisia (Partner for Co-operation), Egypt (Partner for Co-operation) (FSC.DEL/5/14 OSCE+), United States of America (Annex 3), Turkey, Ukraine (FSC.DEL/2/14 OSCE+), Belarus, Moldova (Annex 4), Monaco (Annex 5), Russian Federation (Annex 6)

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

None

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1 Includes corrections to the English translation of annex 6.

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Informal meeting on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, to be held on 30 January 2014 (FSC.GAL/3/14 Restr.):* FSC  
Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security  
(Germany)
- (b) *Matters of protocol:* Slovenia, Chairperson, Moldova

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 29 January 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe  
Forum for Security Co-operation**

FSC.JOUR/748/Corr.1  
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Annex 1

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**742nd Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 748, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF LUXEMBOURG**

Mr. Chairperson,

As a Member State of the European Union, Luxembourg fully supports the European Union's statement.

I should like on behalf of Luxembourg and in our capacity as a former Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) to say a few words of welcome to His Excellency George W. Vella, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta, and to assure him of our support during the Maltese Chairmanship and beyond.

Minister,

Luxembourg is very grateful to you for your presentation of the aims of the Maltese Chairmanship of the FSC during the first trimester of 2014.

Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13 provides a very good basis for further reducing the risks connected with the spread and illicit accumulation of small arms and light weapons and their ammunition. It is important for us to continue discussion on the revision and updating of these commitments in the light of the documents recently adopted by the United Nations, in particular the Arms Trade Treaty, resolution 2117 on small arms and light weapons, and resolutions 2106 and 2122 on women, peace and security.

The long-term commitments undertaken by all participating States in Astana and Vilnius to revive, update and modernize the Vienna Document to increase stability, predictability and transparency should be followed up pragmatically. In that context, we hope for structured discussion on all the Vienna Document Plus proposals so as to identify the short- and long-term options for the adaptation of the Vienna Document 2011 to the existing politico-military realities.

We highly appreciate and continue to fully support the efforts of the FSC Chairmanship to strengthen the Forum's contribution to the Helsinki+40 process within the framework of its mandate and in accordance with Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/12 and Ministerial Council Declaration on Furthering the Helsinki+40 Process.

We particularly welcome the attention paid by the Maltese Chairmanship to security problems in the Mediterranean region. We have undertaken to continue and step up co-operation with our Mediterranean neighbours on security questions. In that regard, we welcome the intention of organizing a joint FSC-Permanent Council meeting in March 2014 on the challenges to the security of the OSCE and the Mediterranean.

In conclusion, we thank you, Minister, for your statement and look forward to co-operating with our partners so as to help achieve the aims outlined by the Maltese, Moldovan and Monégasque Chairmanships of the FSC.

We should also like to take this opportunity of thanking Liechtenstein and Lithuania for their excellent co-operation during 2013 and of wishing the Maltese, Moldovan and Monégasque Chairmanships every success in 2014.



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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND**

The Swiss delegation warmly welcomes the Republic of Malta in its role as Chairperson of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC).

We should particularly like to thank His Excellency George Vella, Minister for Foreign Affairs, for his opening address. The presentation of the objectives clearly shows us the direction of our work for the coming months. We are grateful to you for this.

We should also like to thank Ambassador Keith Azzopardi and his team for the meticulous and realistic preparation of the programme for the current trimester. The Security Dialogues proposed are very interesting and promising; they fully reflect the current security issues. Switzerland looks forward to the open, constructive and sincere discussions that will be conducted.

We wish to express our complete satisfaction with Luxembourg, the outgoing Chairmanship, for its intense commitment over the past months.

We welcome Moldova and Monaco now as future Chairpersons of the Forum for Security Co-operation. We should like to congratulate the three successive FSC Chairmanships for 2014 on having prepared a clear, precise and complete programme for the year. This document provides a good overview of the FSC's activities. Switzerland shares the priorities outlined. We should also like to thank the three FSC Chairmanships for having planned joint meetings of the FSC and the Permanent Council.

As the Chairmanship-in-Office of the OSCE, Switzerland would like to stress that it will fully respect the autonomy of the FSC while assuring the successive Chairmanships of its availability and full support.

Despite the current challenges, the Forum for Security Co-operation demonstrated its ability to act and reach consensus at the Ministerial Council in Kyiv. We now need to continue our constructive work for stability and peace not only for the OSCE area but also for the neighbouring regions, including the Mediterranean.

Switzerland continues to support the development, updating and strengthening of the politico-military dimension instruments so that they meet our co-operative security needs and benefit the 57 participating States in an ever-changing world.

Among the priorities, Switzerland attaches particular importance to the Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures, conventional arms control, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, security sector governance and updating the normative work on small arms and light weapons.

We also attach particular importance to themes and activities that bring added value and complement the efforts of the United Nations, strengthening the role of the OSCE under Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.

Lastly, the FSC projects carried out in co-operation with the Conflict Prevention Centre in many participating States and at their request, such as management of surplus ammunition, destruction of small arms and light weapons, destruction of mélange stockpiles or the implementation of resolution 1540, are the hallmark of the OSCE and an excellent calling card for the Organization.

We thank you for your attention and ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.



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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

The United States welcomes Malta to the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation. We look forward to a productive and interesting first session of 2014. Malta has been in the centre of military and security issues for centuries so it is surely no accident that you and your colleagues have assembled a rich and stimulating schedule of speakers and events. We support your focus on the Mediterranean region, an area that reflects many of the changes in the security environment that the Forum addresses, and look forward to hearing from the Mediterranean Partners as well as participating States from the region.

We remain committed to modernizing the Vienna Document to make it relevant to today's security environment: all of us are interested in transparency about the activities of each other's military forces. While the Vienna Document continues to contribute to security and transparency in Europe, participating States agree that there is need for revision or "modernization" of the document to take account of changes in military affairs since the end of the Cold War. We want to keep the focus of the Forum for Security Co-operation on updating the Vienna Document to enhance military transparency, while also seeking to strengthen the OSCE's other politico-military tools to enhance European security. We believe a chapter-by-chapter review of the Vienna Document would usefully focus those efforts.

This work on the Vienna Document will be part of the FSC's contribution to the Helsinki+40 process now underway. Consistent with the discussions started by Ukraine in 2013, we see value in participating States exchanging views in the FSC on underlying European security concerns, military modernization plans, and doctrine; these exchanges would contribute to an effective discussion of the purpose and focus of future work on conventional arms control. We believe that updating the Vienna Document is a complementary effort that can and should take place independent of our efforts to modernize the broader conventional arms control regime.

We also want to work with the chair and others to improve implementation of agreed measures in the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, focusing on projects that can be sustained by responsible recipient States while exploring ways to address gender issues in this area. We remain committed to engaging with the Mediterranean Partners on work in small arms and light weapons/stockpiles of conventional ammunition.

Once more, we welcome Malta as the Chairmanship of the Forum and look forward to a productive session.





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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MOLDOVA**

Mr. Chairperson,

While aligning with the Statement of the European Union, I would like to add some words in national and FSC Troika member capacity. First, let me join the previous speakers to warmly welcome H.E. Dr. George W. Vella, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Malta and congratulate Malta with the assumption of the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation. We would like also to use this opportunity to express our appreciation to Lithuania, which is leaving the FSC Troika, and Luxembourg, the outgoing FSC Chairmanship, for their leadership and dedication throughout the past year.

The Republic of Moldova fully supports the outlined priorities and the working programme of the Forum for Security Co-operation in the first trimester of this year, set by the Chairmanship of Malta. It provides a good opportunity to intensify efforts in achieving our common goals on issues related to arms control, modernization and update of the Vienna Document 2011, the Code of Conduct, non-proliferation, small arms and light weapons, as well as the FSC contribution to the Helsinki+40 process. A number of delegations have already noted the important role we attach to the Security Dialogues as an excellent platform to exchange views and address current security issues in our region.

As a new member of the FSC Troika, we are very pleased with the dynamic and productive co-operation with the Chairmanship of Malta and with our colleagues from the Monaco delegation on outlining the priorities of the FSC work for this year. In this regard, we appreciate your support in appointing Mr. Robertas Rosinas, Deputy Head of the Permanent Mission of Lithuania to the OSCE, a real professional and well known diplomat in the OSCE community, as the *chef de file* of the 2014 Annual Security Review Conference. Another good example of our team work is the scheduled participation of Deputy Chief of the General Staff of the National Army of Moldova, Colonel Andrei Sarban, at the Security Dialogue of 12 February 2014 to present the Comprehensive Conventional Ammunition Stockpile Management programme in our country. We are looking forward to continue our close co-operation, and Mr. Chairperson, you can count on our full support.

Finally, we would like to thank once again Minister Vella for his presentation and to wish him and his small, but very skilful and able team, every success as the FSC Chairmanship and in their future endeavours.

Mr. Chairperson,

We kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MONACO**

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like first of all to pay tribute to the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Vella, and welcome him.

Monaco assures Malta of its full support during its Chairmanship of the Forum.

At this stage, we wish first of all to express our full agreement regarding the programme of work that has been presented to us.

The Principality is obviously very aware of the Mediterranean dimension that the programme highlights.

The OSCE does not exist in a vacuum and Malta's intention to involve our Mediterranean Partners even more in the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) seems absolutely necessary to us.

When the time comes, our own programme will take up the Maltese and Moldovan *acquis*. In preparing this programme, we are counting on these two countries with which we enjoy friendly relations.

I cannot conclude without making reference to the statement by our colleague from Luxembourg and the appearance in this Forum of the concept of the MAMOMO Chairmanship, which sounds a little like the acronym for a Museum of Modern Art.

But we all know that chairing a forum such as the FSC is also an art.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

Our delegation associates itself with the words of welcome already addressed to the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta, the esteemed Dr. George Vella, and with the wishes for success extended to the Maltese delegation on its assumption of the post of Chairmanship of the Forum. We also congratulate our Moldovan colleagues on joining the FSC Troika.

We should like to express our sincere gratitude to the delegation of Luxembourg, which had the difficult task of chairing the Forum in the run-up to and during the OSCE Ministerial Council in Kyiv, as well as to our distinguished Lithuanian colleagues who are leaving the Troika.

The first three months of 2014 will be a crucial period, setting, as is traditional, the tone of the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation for the entire year. We support the programme of work for the Forum announced by Dr. Vella and the priorities outlined.

A number of events already planned, first and foremost the holding of the 2014 Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting, will be of particular importance in the first trimester. We still have to discuss realistic options for updating the Vienna Document, which, in our view, are not great at the present time. At this stage, we can talk about “fine-tuning” or “point by point” improvement of individual provisions of the Vienna Document 2011, mainly related to raising efficiency and reducing expenditure on verification activities and the exchange of military information. Russia’s ideas in this regard are already being discussed within the FSC.

We also have to, at least in general terms, work on the parameters of a possible “politico-military contribution” by the FSC to the Helsinki+40 process, which is gathering momentum. We assume that this work will be carried out in strict accordance with the Forum’s mandate and authority.

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1 Includes corrections to the English translation.

We are convinced that the Security Dialogue taking place within the FSC will continue to play its role, as will the OSCE Security Days held at the Secretary General's initiative, and we hope to make our contribution to them. In that connection, we naturally welcome the general discussions on the pressing topic of conventional arms control in Europe and we believe that these discussions can provide some good food for thought in the run-up to possible future official negotiations by interested States on the formation of a fundamentally new regime.

The year that has just begun is a milestone year for one of the most important politico-military documents of the FSC, namely the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, which will celebrate its 20th anniversary. We wish once again to stress that we regard it as a single document, which first and foremost sets high standards for responsible foreign policy by participating States.

We welcome the intention of the Maltese Chairmanship to step up collaboration with the Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation. We understand the particular significance attached to that region. We hope that the strengthening of contacts with the FSC will be carried out on the basis of respect and with due account taken of the specific national features of each partner State.

In conclusion, allow me once again to thank His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Malta for the detailed outline of the priorities of the Maltese Chairmanship of the FSC.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.