



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 802-nd FSC Plenary Meeting
(4 November 2015 at 10.00, Hofburg)
(Agenda item 1)**

Mr. Chairman,

We note with cautious optimism that the ceasefire continues to be broadly observed in eastern Ukraine, and that weapons withdrawals are being carried out in accordance with the agreement reached on the 29th of September. However, we remain concerned by the recurring instances of the militants' armed provocations, leading to new human losses and destruction, as well as by the continuing presence of heavy weapons in the militant-controlled areas in violation of the respective withdrawal lines.

The rate and the intensity of the incidents recorded in Donbas significantly declined after 1 September, but ceasefire violations continued to be observed almost every day. **In the period of 29 October - 3 November the number of ceasefire violations by the militants amounted to 14. During last week one Ukrainian serviceman was killed and 21 were seriously wounded.**

Despite a downward trend in level and extent of violence in the Security Zone, the overall security situation in Donbas remained tense. Russia and the militants it supports continue to amass weaponry that can be quickly brought to the front in a re-escalation of the conflict. Even more alarming, combined Russian-separatist forces continue to assemble large amounts of weaponry just beyond withdrawal lines. The SMM should continue to focus on strengthening the ceasefire, and verifying compliance of the illegal armed groups with the Minsk agreements and the withdrawal plan in order to maintain established momentum.

Distinguished colleagues,

Ukraine continues to implement fully and in good faith its commitments on withdrawal of weapons under the Addendum to the Minsk Package of measures. In line with agreed arrangements, Ukrainian forces completed the withdrawal of tanks near Donetsk and artillery

below 100 mm caliber – near Artemivsk. Every stage of withdrawal is subject to the thorough OSCE SMM verification.

While the SMM enjoys the cooperative and transparent approach of the Ukrainian side in government-controlled areas, it still experiences serious impediments and restrictions in the occupied part of Donbas.

Over the past week the SMM again reported of militants' impediments to access to the weapons storage sites and border area. Russia has not yet delivered on its commitment as the SMM is continuously prevented from monitoring most of the border areas in the occupied part of Luhansk oblast.

The SMM continued to report the presence and firing in the Security Zone of heavy weapons which should have been withdrawn by pro-Russian militants in accordance with the Memorandum and Package of Measures. It also reported large numbers of such weapons outside the Security Zone, verifying some present in holding areas, some absent from these, and others static or on the move elsewhere. The Mission's access to these areas continued to be restricted in areas outside government control. These impediments were most severe in parts of Luhansk region outside government control, where pro-Russian militants systematically obstructed effective monitoring and verification.

This unacceptable situation is contrary to the outcomes of the Normandy Summit in Paris and the agreement of all participants. Urgent steps must be taken by Russia that would allow the Mission to perform without hindrance their monitoring and verification functions in the occupied part of Donbas, including border areas.

Distinguished colleagues,

We would like to bring to your attention that due to the significant decline of morale among the combined Russian-separatist forces in Donbas, the Russian command has appointed a new Chief of Staff - an active officer of the Russian Airborne Forces - to the 6th separate motorized regiment of the 2nd Army Corp to keep the situation under control. Given the deterioration of the financial and economic situation in Russia, the amount of Russian financial support to the so called "DPR/LPR" had reduced, which affected the logistics of the 1st and 2nd Army Corps formations and units. Due to non-payment of monetary remuneration for militants of the 2nd Army Corps, they began to trade in spare parts of military equipment that can be used in civilian vehicles as an alternative method of enrichment

According to the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine, there were numerous documented cases of refusal by the Russian servicemen to take part in combat operations on the territory of Ukraine. In particular, the Russian prosecutors have opened 80 criminal cases under Article 337 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation (unauthorized leave of the military unit or place of service) against soldiers of the 33rd separate motorized brigade of the 49th Army of the Southern Military District in the city of Maikop. It was reported that the soldiers had filed reports with the rejection of "mission" in Donbas after undergoing a special training in Russia's Rostov region.

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome that the TCG meeting in Minsk on 27 October resulted, in particular, in resumption of the process of release of hostages and illegally detained persons, which had been stalled by the pro-Russian militants for almost two months. The first exchange of "11 to 9" took place on 29 October near the town of Schastya, Luhansk oblast. The second exchange of "1 to 1" was on 30 October in Mar'inka, Donetsk oblast.

At the same time we are concerned over the destiny of **138 Ukrainian citizens among them 59 civilians who are still remain captive in Donbas**. We continue to urge the Russian Federation to speed up the release of hostages and illegally detained persons on the basis of "all-for-all" principle. We reiterate that the relevant provision of the Minsk Package of measures apply to all illegally detained Ukrainian citizens, including those in captivity in Russia. We demand their immediate and unconditional release.

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome that the SMM increased the number of field presences in Donetsk and Luhansk regions, opening forward patrol bases in Volnovakha, Novoaidar and Stakhanov. The establishment of additional patrol hubs and forward patrol bases, along with more effective use of established and new remote observation tools, will transform the Mission's capabilities in this, as well as other respects.

It is unacceptable that the militants continued to restrict the Mission's freedom of movement, in particular to areas close to the border with the Russian Federation that remained outside government control.

Distinguished colleagues,

At the last FSC meeting I proposed to focus our attention on Russia's illegal arms transfers to non-state actors in Ukraine as the illegal international transfers of military goods and equipment from the Russian Federation across the uncontrolled sections of the Ukrainian-Russian border to Russia-backed militant groups in the east of Ukraine violate numerous Russia's international obligations. Such illegal transfers include not only small arms and light weapons (SALW), but also heavy armaments such as armored trucks and vehicles, armored personnel carriers (APC), main battle tanks (MBT), multiple launcher rocket systems (MLRS), man portable air defense systems (MANPADS). The provisions of the Minsk agreements of September 2014 and February 2015 envisage withdrawal of Russian weapons and equipment from the Ukrainian territory. This has not yet been done by Russia. Let me offer you some photo evidences provided by the competent authorities of Ukraine of the Russian illegal arms transfers to Ukrainian territory.

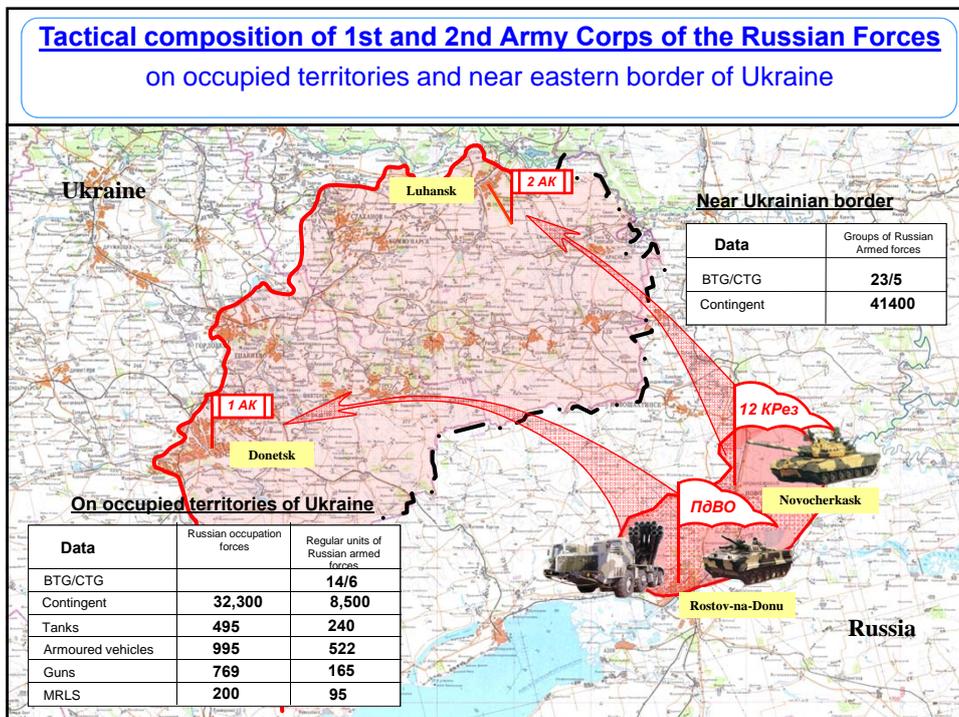
(Presentation of photo evidences attached).

Mr. Chairman,

Consistent effort must be made to seek good faith implementation by the Russian Federation and pro-Russian militants of all provisions of the Minsk agreements, in particular the withdrawal of heavy weapons, mercenaries and the Russian regular armed forces from the occupied territories in Donbas, exchange of prisoners, resuming Ukraine's control of the Ukrainian-Russian state border

We urge Russia to put an end to its aggression against Ukraine and reverse the illegal occupation and annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol, which remain an integral part of Ukraine.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.



Presence of Russian soldiers with their arms in the east of Ukraine



**Seized military equipment & ammunition transported by captured Major Starkov
Position – Head of missile & artillery supply, Military service No. Ф-549345.**



Russia has transferred to the Ukrainian territory thousands of launchers & trench mortars, automatic rifles and other military equipment



Evidence of use of armored vehicles by Russian Armed Forces in Donbas



Insignia
23-d separate motorized rifle brigade (Samara city)
Central military district, RF armed forces



Insignia
5-th separate tank brigade (Ulan-Ude city)
Eastern military district, RF armed forces



Insignia
11-th engineer brigade (K. – Shakhtinskiy city)
Southern military district, RF armed forces

Facts of use of military equipment of the Russian armed forces in military operations in Donbas which are not used by the Armed Forces of Ukraine

Armored vehicles



Armored vehicle
BMP-97 "Vystrel"

Air-defense facilities



Anti-aircraft missile & artillery system
"Pantsyr-C"

Antitank weapons



Antitank missile system "Konkurs-M"

Air drones



Air drone "Eleron-3CB"



Air drone "Takhion"



Air drone "Forpost"



Air drone "Orlan-10"

Russian tanks / armored vehicles / artillery systems / MRLS in Donbas



March 2015: air-defense system **Strela-10** and **OCA-AKM** in Luhansk



February 2015: air-defense system **9KCA «Barnaul-T»** in Luhansk



April 2015: Russian heavy equipment on the Luhansk air field

**IDENTIFIED RUSSIAN ARMAMENTS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT
IN THE EAST OF UKRAINE**



Reconnaissance complex "Zoopark-1M"



Radio reconnaissance station
1L267 "Moskva-1"



Radio reconnaissance station 1L222
"Avtobaza"



Radar PSNR-8M



A R-330 ZH Zhytel mobile
jamming communication
system spotted on 30
August near Telmanove
('DPR'-controlled)

**RUSSIAN ARMAMENTS AND MILITARY EQUIPMENT
IDENTIFIED IN THE EAST OF UKRAINE
(not used by the Armed Forces of Ukraine)**



**Armored vehicle Ural-63095
"Typhoon"**



**Multiple thermo baric rocket systems TOS-1
"Buratino"**



Self-propelled mortar 2S4 "Tyulpan"



**Anti-aircraft missile system
"Tor"**