

ENGLISH only

**REPORT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY
CO-OPERATION, AMBASSADOR DR. GYÖRGY MOLNÁR, AT THE
ANNUAL SECURITY REVIEW CONFERENCE 2010**

Mr. Chairperson, Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure for me to address this year's Annual Security Review Conference in my capacity as the Chairperson of the Forum for Security Co-operation. In my intervention, I will outline the main activities of the FSC since the last ASRC in 2009.

The past year has been characterized by the Corfu process dedicated to open and informal discussion on issues related to wider European security. Two sessions, focusing on arms control and confidence- and security-building measures, held in the framework of the Corfu process, provided a good opportunity to share views and concerns about our common politico-military security and contributed to the weekly security dialogue of the FSC and to the discussions in its working groups.

Since the last ASRC, the co-operation between the Forum and the Permanent Council has been intensified; six joint meetings of these two decision-making bodies have been organized. During these meetings, a wide range of important topics – such as the situation in Afghanistan, conflict prevention and crisis management, the New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty and cyber security – have been addressed.

Ministerial Council Decisions Nos. 13/08 and 16/09 called on the FSC in accordance with its mandate to further intensify the security dialogue to address key security issues in the OSCE region. The FSC Chairmanships – Georgia, the United Kingdom, Greece and Hungary – maintained the dialogue at the same high and active level, introducing current and relevant issues, such as the mission of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) and its implications for the OSCE participating States, the Vienna Document 1999 and other relevant CSBMs, or the Russian military doctrine and the current reform of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

The substantive decisions agreed upon by the OSCE foreign ministers in Athens have also injected a new dynamism into the work of the FSC. Ministerial Council Decision No. 16/09, on “Issues relevant to the FSC”, called on the Forum to “explore ways in which to strengthen the OSCE’s politico-military toolbox, with particular attention to strengthening current arms control and CSBM instruments, including strengthening the Vienna Document 1999”. Against this background, a special session focusing on the Vienna Document was organized in February.

In March, the 20th Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting was held in Vienna to review the way in which the politico-military commitments had been complied with by the participating States in 2009 and to generate new ideas for improving confidence and transparency.

In May, the FSC adopted Decision No. 01/10, whereby the participating States agreed on a procedure for regular updates of the Vienna Document. Although procedural in nature, this decision represents a significant step towards a targeted updating of this key OSCE document.

The Athens meeting of the Ministerial Council also called on the FSC to contribute to discussions on principles inherent in the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. Hence, a special round table with inputs by three academic experts was organized in February 2010, resulting in an open and constructive dialogue among the participating States. The discussion, following the presentations during the round table on the principles inherent in the Code of Conduct, testified to the need to continue trying to attain the high standards set by it in our inter-State and intra-State relations. This was a first step in the implementation of the relevant Athens Ministerial Council decision, but this discussion should continue, since the same principles also lie at the heart of the Corfu process. A rereading of the Code of Conduct testifies that we have already agreed on a complete set of principles and norms. The key lies in the implementation by all, in full and in good faith. Implementation will be the ultimate test of what kind of security arrangements the OSCE participating States want to have in the twenty-first century.

As a matter of transparency and confidence-building, the participating States decided in 1998 to exchange information on the implementation of the Code of Conduct. This year, the participating States exchanged information for the first time in accordance with the Questionnaire of the Code of Conduct, as updated in 2009. The purpose of the update was to better reflect the structure of the Code itself, to allow for more structured answers and thus to contribute to increased transparency. In this way, it is expected that more concrete and less overlapping information will be obtained, and an increase in compliance in implementation of the commitments of the Code of Conduct is also expected. An overview of the replies and major changes will be presented to the FSC.

Since our last Conference, the Forum has pursued its efforts to strengthen the implementation of existing politico-military commitments, as well as discussing possible additional measures. As an example, I would recall the adoption of FSC Decision No. 8/09, on the Best practice Guide for Implementation of the Vienna Document 1999 - Chapter IV, Contacts, which has improved the implementation of these measures in the light of practical experience gained.

As requested by the Ministerial Council decisions in 2008 and 2009 and in line with United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004), the Forum is also looking for ways to intensify its activities regarding nuclear non-proliferation. In September 2009, the participating States endorsed a best practice guide on the implementation of the provisions on export control and transshipment of UNSC resolution 1540 (2004). In addition, political impetus was given to enhanced OSCE action in this field by the Athens Ministerial Declaration on Non-Proliferation, which reaffirmed the commitment of the participating States to global efforts and their readiness to provide effective assistance on implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) to those States that require it.

The participating States have also continued to exchange military information in accordance with the various FSC commitments. In 2009, the general level of implementation of information exchanges started at a significantly lower level than in the previous years, and the replies were less compliant with regard to timing. The FSC Chairpersons made extensive use of the announcing and reminding mechanism in order to improve the availability of information among participating States. These efforts generated greater compliance with obligations towards the end of 2009 and early in 2010.

Pursuant to a tasking by the Helsinki Ministerial Council meeting, a review meeting on the OSCE commitments on small arms and light weapons (SALW) was organized in

September 2009. The meeting produced a list of suggestions on ways of further enhancing OSCE action in combating the illicit spread of SALW, and as a first concrete step, in November 2009, the FSC adopted Decision No. 11/09, on “Expert advice on implementation of Section V of the OSCE Document on SALW”. Subsequently, the Athens meeting of the Ministerial Council, in its Decision No. 15/09, requested the Forum, *inter alia*, to develop a plan of action with a view to enhancing the OSCE’s action in this field. This plan, adopted on 26 May, foresees the full implementation of agreed commitments, as well as a review of the implementation of principles, norms and measures in order to improve capacity and efficiency. The plan of action will be presented, along with other OSCE activities, at the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action on SALW, which is being held in New York this week (14–18 June).

The provision of practical assistance to participating States in ensuring and enhancing safe and secure storage conditions for SALW and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA), as well as the destruction of surpluses, remains high on the FSC’s agenda. Since the last ASRC, the FSC has completed a project in Albania, where the Organization eliminated the remaining stocks of rocket fuel component (*mélange*), which presented a grave threat to the population and the environment. Another OSCE project is currently being implemented in Albania, on demilitarization of surplus stockpiles of ammunition.

Many other projects are still being implemented, or are waiting to be launched, pending the provision of financial resources:

- In Moldova, a comprehensive programme on SALW and SCA has been elaborated and launched;
- In Kazakhstan, the OSCE has developed a project that would permit testing of the safety of stored ammunition, thus reducing the risk of a spontaneous explosion;
- In Kyrgyzstan, possible assistance projects on SALW collection, as well as SALW stockpile management and security, are currently being considered.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSCE and UNDP, the OSCE is engaged in two joint projects on capacity-building in Belarus and Montenegro, for which UNDP is serving as the implementing agency.

Finally, in Ukraine, the OSCE is currently implementing its largest ever extrabudgetary project, aiming at the elimination of some 16,000 tonnes of *mélange*. The first implementation phase of the project has almost been completed, and nearly 3,000 tonnes of *mélange* have been successfully transported to Russia, where they were eliminated at industrial facilities. Also in Ukraine, an OSCE project on removal of explosive remnants of war is currently being implemented.

Since 2004, the participating States have provided over 11.5 million euros to make possible the implementation of these projects. The substantial amount of extrabudgetary contributions testifies to the success of FSC projects in bringing about greater safety, stability and peace. However, funding of projects continues to be one of the challenges that the OSCE and the participating States will face in the future.

Mr. Chairperson,

As I have outlined, the FSC continues to actively address a broad range of politico-military issues. I am looking forward to the discussions in the coming three days and wish this Conference the best of success.

Thank you for your attention.