

MC.DEL/52/12
7 December 2012

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE
RUSSIAN FEDERATION AT THE CLOSING SESSION OF
THE NINETEENTH MEETING OF THE
OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL**

Dublin, 7 December 2012

The delegation of the Russian Federation expresses its sincere gratitude to the Irish Chairmanship for its intensive and effective work over the year and also for the good organization of the ministerial meeting.

The central event of our meeting was the launch of the Helsinki+40 political process, which is aimed at adapting the OSCE to the new realities and increasing its contribution to the joint efforts to develop a common and indivisible security space. The comprehensive reform of the Organization and its underpinning with a solid legal basis should be an integral element of this process.

For the first time in many years it proved possible to agree on an important statement at the ministerial level on the negotiations on the Transdniestrian settlement process in the “5+2” format. A statement by the countries co-chairing the OSCE Minsk Group on a Nagorno-Karabakh settlement was also adopted.

We welcome the important decision on transnational threats, which welcomes the strategic OSCE documents on this subject adopted in the course of the year – the OSCE anti-narcotics concept, the framework for police-related activities and also the decision on the development of confidence-building measures regarding the use of communication technologies. It is important that this list of decisions also includes the OSCE consolidated counter-terrorism mandate adopted in the course of the work of the Ministerial Council. These documents create a sound systemic basis for the OSCE’s work on transnational threats in the medium and long term. It is now important to systematically translate these decisions into practical steps and actions.

We are pleased to note the adoption of the decision on good governance and combating corruption. This is also a threat common to all countries. Combating corruption is a priority topic for Russia, *inter alia* in its capacity as president of the Group of 20.

Unfortunately, we did not reach an agreement on the draft Ministerial Council decisions on issues relevant to the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation. The reason for this lies in the differences in the approaches to the questions of further improving confidence- and security-building measures. We expect from our partners more realistic

positions on these matters and specific proposals capable of removing the obstacles to agreeing on the concepts and parameters for a new conventional arms control regime.

It is true that just like last year it did not prove possible to reach consensus on the humanitarian basket documents. From the very outset the Russian Federation played an active part in the negotiations on all the human dimension documents. Together with a number of other States, we put forward draft decisions on the problems that we believe to be the most relevant at the present time: combating neo-Nazism, freedom of movement with a focus on the abolition of visas, and improving the OSCE's election observation activities. In addition we also worked on topics that are priorities for other States. Unfortunately, none of these documents were adopted.

We believe that it is time to draw serious conclusions from the current situation. The OSCE will work successfully if we push those decisions that enjoy broad general support and in the process all States work on a uniting agenda. We trust that future OSCE chairmanships will take this into account in their work.

We wish the incoming Ukrainian Chairmanship every success in leading the OSCE in 2013.

Thank you for your attention.

I would ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the Dublin Ministerial Council meeting.