

**Chairmanship: Russian Federation****857th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 21 June 2017

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Suspended: 1 p.m.  
Resumed: 3.05 p.m.  
Closed: 3.30 p.m

2. Chairperson: Mr. A. Vorobiev

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the FSC, offered condolences to Portugal in connection with the recent wildfires and to the United Kingdom in connection with the fire at the Grenfell Tower housing block in London on 14 June and the terrorist attack in London on 19 June 2017. He also offered condolences to Germany on the death of former Chancellor Helmut Kohl on 16 June 2017. Portugal, the United Kingdom and Germany thanked the Chairperson for his expressions of sympathy.

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: COLLECTIVE SECURITY  
TREATY ORGANIZATION (CSTO) – COUNTERING  
TRADITIONAL AND NEW CHALLENGES TO SECURITY

- *Presentation by Mr. V. Semerikov, Deputy Secretary General of the CSTO*
- *Presentation by Mr. V. Musikhin, Adviser, Department for International Co-operation of the CSTO Secretariat*

Chairperson, Mr. V. Semerikov, Mr. V. Musikhin, Malta-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/178/17/Rev.1), Belarus, Armenia,

Kazakhstan, United States of America, Ukraine, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan (Partner for Co-operation) (FSC.DEL/181/17 OSCE+), Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *Military exercise “Aurora 17”, to be held in Sweden from 11 to 29 September 2017:* Sweden (Annex), Russian Federation, Canada
- (b) *Situation in and around Ukraine:* Ukraine, Malta-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/179/17), Canada, United States of America, Netherlands, Russian Federation
- (c) *Military exercise in Azerbaijan, being conducted from 19 to 24 June 2017:* Armenia (FSC.DEL/182/17), Azerbaijan, Turkey

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Second Breakout Workshop on CSBMs (Vienna Document 2011), held on 12 and 13 June 2017 (CIO.GAL/78/17 OSCE+):* Austria
- (b) *Third Breakout Workshop on CSBMs (Vienna Document 2011), to be held on 5 and 6 October 2017:* Austria
- (c) *Retreat on politico-military issues related to “Vienna Document 2011, Chapter IX: Compliance and Verification – Demonstration of an Evaluation”, to be held in Zwölfaxing, Austria, on 22 June 2017 (CIO.GAL/92/17 OSCE+):* Austria
- (d) *Decision by the Council of the European Union to establish the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) within the EU military staff:* Malta-European Union
- (e) *Declining by Kyrgyzstan of a request by the United States of America that Kyrgyzstan host a Vienna Document inspection on 9 June 2017:* United States of America
- (f) *Matters of protocol:* Hungary, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 5 July 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**857th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 863, Agenda item 2(a)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWEDEN**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Distinguished delegates,

Sweden recognizes the Vienna Document as the very foundation of the politico-military confidence- and security-building instruments within our Organization. Furthermore Sweden pays the highest interest in upholding the transparency measures of the Treaty as well as its further development, including different Vienna Document plus proposals that are on the table.

To this end, I would like to share with you, some information on the upcoming Swedish military field training exercise “Aurora 17” that will be executed in September this year.

“Aurora 17” is a national combined-arms exercise that aims to strengthen our national defence capability in light of the deteriorating security situation in our neighbourhood.

“Aurora 17” is an important step in implementing the defence bill from 2015 and represents a milestone in the Swedish armed forces’ reform work. The exercise is also a signal to the rest of the world about our capability. A credible military capability contributes to continued peaceful development and freedom of political action.

The aim of the exercise is to further develop the armed forces’ operational capability, to further build and develop its capability to conduct joint operations, and to increase Sweden’s ability to provide and receive military support, to and from, our partners. Sweden is hereby taking its share of the responsibility for security and stability in our region. We are using the entire range of security policy instruments: enhanced national defence capability, international co-operation, and dialogue and confidence-building measures.

The scenario for “Aurora 17” is an armed conflict in our neighbourhood, where Sweden is the target of an armed attack. The Swedish armed forces will defend Swedish territory with the aim of maintaining freedom of political action and our national sovereignty.

The exercise will be conducted from 11 until 29 September and will take place primarily in the southern and central parts of Sweden and on the island of Gotland.

During the exercise, the total number of Vienna Document related troops participating will not, at any given time, be more than 10,500.

Based upon our position as military non-aligned, we build security in co-operation with others. It is therefore important to invite other countries to take part, in the same way that Swedish units take part in exercises within the framework of our co-operation with other countries and organizations. Therefore participants from the United States of America, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Latvia, Lithuania and Norway are to take part in “Aurora 17”.

We strive to be as transparent as possible about the exercise, and the Swedish armed forces are providing continuous information about “Aurora 17”, both nationally and internationally, thus contributing to increased predictability and stability.

The Swedish armed forces will also invite a limited number of States to an “under threshold observation” according to the Vienna Document 2011, Chapter 4. In addition to the States participating in the exercise, also Germany, Belarus, Canada, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Poland and the Russian Federation will be invited, as these countries have specific interest in the region.

Several major exercises will be conducted in nearby areas at roughly the same time, particularly the Polish exercise “Dragon” and the Russian-Belarusian exercise “Zapad 17”. Openness and predictability are important.

Mr. Chairperson, I would kindly ask you to add this presentation to the journal of the day.