
Chairmanship: Russian Federation**853rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2017

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Suspended: 1 p.m.

Resumed: 3.10 p.m.

Closed: 4 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. A. Vorobiev

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: “MEASURES TO PREVENT THE UNCONTROLLED SPREAD OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS”

– *Ambassador E. Danon, Deputy General Director for political and security affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France*

– *Ms. M. Soriano, Inspector of the General Commissary of Information, Ministry of the Interior, Spain*

– *Mr. V. Antonyuk, Deputy Director of the Department for Non-Proliferation and Arms Control Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Russian Federation*

– *Mr. H. Shiotani, Programme Lead, Conventional Arms Programme, UNIDIR*

Chairperson, Ambassador E. Danon, Ms. M. Soriano, Mr. V. Antonyuk (Russian Federation) (Annex 1), Mr. H. Shiotani (FSC.DEL/149/17 OSCE+), 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 country Iceland, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/142/17), Spain (Annex 2), FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and

Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary), Ukraine (FSC.DEL/146/17), Belarus, United States of America, Serbia, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Italy), Turkey, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *Financial contributions to the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM) and to the Capacity Development Programme for Conventional Ammunition Stockpile Management for the Republic of Serbia (CASM):* Luxembourg (Annex 3), Serbia, Montenegro, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary)
- (b) *Briefing on the military exercise “Brave Warrior”, to be conducted in Hungary from 22 June to 26 July 2017:* Hungary (FSC.DEL/144/17 Restr.), United States of America
- (c) *Situation in and around Ukraine:* Ukraine (FSC.DEL/147/17), 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 countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/143/17), Canada, United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

OSCE Austrian Chairmanship’s perception paper and preliminary conclusions on the Intersessional OSCE Dialogue on Military Doctrines, held on 4 and 5 May 2017 (CIO.GAL/80/17 OSCE+) (CIO.GAL/80/17/Add.1 OSCE+): Austria

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 24 May 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Ratsaal



853rd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 859, Agenda item 1

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

Distinguished colleagues,

Despite the efforts made by States to prevent the uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons (SALW), this problem remains acute. SALW remain one of the most used types of weapons in regional and local conflicts, surpassing other categories of weapons in terms of the number of human casualties resulting from their use in combat. A growing concern is the widespread use of SALW by terrorist, extremist and criminal groups that are constantly replenishing their already large arsenals.

As one of the leading arms producers, the Russian Federation pays particular attention to the tasks of ensuring effective State control over transactions involving SALW at the national level, pursuing a responsible policy in the field of military-technical co-operation with foreign countries, guided by the stringent requirements of a developed export control system.

Legal regulation of SALW in the Russian Federation is permissive. In other words, any activities that are not expressly provided for by legislative acts are prohibited. Those guilty of violating the existing regulatory legal requirements in this area will incur administrative, material or criminal liability.

The illegal production, storage, sale, acquisition, transfer, transportation or bearing of SALW are criminalized under the Criminal Code of the Russian Federation. The same penalty is provided for theft or extortion of SALW, negligent storage or improper discharge of duties for their protection and loss, and violation of regulations for the handling of weapons.

A great deal of attention is paid to the tasks of recording and tracking transactions involving SALW. In Russia, a unique SALW marking system is used, which makes it possible to identify any weapon from the time of its manufacture to its disposal. The marking is stamped to a depth of at least 0.2 millimetres, which makes it possible to recover data by forensic examination even in cases where the markings have been mechanically removed.

A number of Russian manufacturers are testing methods of applying additional hidden markings with high-frequency tags (RFID tags) to small arms, which, using modern information technologies, verify their integrity. At the same time, it is possible to carry out identification of SALW in the event of the destruction of their main markings.

The manufacture of unmarked weapons in Russia is prohibited and prosecuted in the manner prescribed by national legislation. In this regard, transactions involving unmarked SALW and their storage on the territory of the Russian Federation are also prohibited. Such weapons are classified as illegal, and are destroyed or duly marked.

Technical record-keeping of firearms in the form of their test firing with the formation of a federal database on bullets and shell cases is a significant factor in ensuring control over transactions involving military, civilian and service SALW and an effective preventive measure aimed at the prevention, detection and investigation of related crimes. In the Russian Federation, firearms with a rifled barrel with a calibre of up to 12.7 mm (50 calibre) are subject to such technical control.

In the Russian Armed Forces, internal affairs bodies, units of the Federal National Guard Troops Service of the Russian Federation and State paramilitary organizations, special records are kept, in which a note is made each time arms or ammunition are issued. SALW are accounted for in a special log, which records their movement, availability in the warehouse and in each unit. In addition, a unique numbered procedure is used to track SALW assigned to units and designated persons.

There is a State monopoly in the field of military-technical co-operation in the Russian Federation. The export of SALW is carried out exclusively on the basis of decisions of the President of the Russian Federation, the Government of the Russian Federation and/or the Federal Service for Military-Technical Co-operation. One of the preconditions for supply is the availability of an end-user certificate legalized in accordance with the established procedure, containing the commitments of the authorized body of a foreign State to use imported weapons only for the stated purposes and not to allow their re-export or transfer to third countries without the consent of the Russian authorities.

When making decisions on overseas shipments of SALW, a number of political, economic, military and other factors are taken into account, in particular, the international legal status of the recipient State or organization in whose interests a contract for the supply of SALW has been concluded; the situation in the importing country and the region as a whole in terms of the presence of tension or armed conflicts in order to prevent destabilizing accumulations of weapons; and also the recipient State's practice of observing international legal and other commitments on the non-use of force, and its observance of human rights.

Brokering is strictly regulated. Licences for the export of military goods are issued only to the State intermediary agency the Rosoboronexport open joint-stock company, 100 per cent of the shares of which are controlled by the State in the form of the Rostec State corporation, and also to an extremely limited number of organizations developing and manufacturing armaments and military equipment. Furthermore, deliveries of finished products are carried out only by Rosoboronexport; other entities involved in military-technical co-operation are authorized to export only spare parts, components and

ancillary equipment. A licence is essential for customs clearance and control, and is subject to registration with the customs authorities.

With regard to certain types of SALW, namely man-portable air defence systems, provision is made to monitor the fulfilment by the authorized bodies of foreign States of their obligations regarding the proper use of the military goods supplied. Proper use is understood to mean the use of goods solely for the purposes specified in the end-user certificate. International treaties to which the Russian Federation is a party are the basis for such monitoring.

Great importance is attached to the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA), which remains the only specialized global document in the field of combating illicit trafficking in SALW. At the same time, it should be noted that the potential for its gradual development has not yet been completely tapped.

In our opinion, the adoption of a number of concrete effective measures would help to increase the practical benefit of implementing the UN PoA. For example, strengthening national control of all stages in the life cycle of a weapon – from its manufacture to its disposal – would make it possible to reduce significantly the risks of the illegal proliferation of SALW. Among other desirable measures is the introduction of a ban on the supply of all types of SALW to unauthorized structures of the recipient State, strict regulation of brokering activities, the prevention of unauthorized re-export of weapons and the cessation of weapons production by “pirated” means, i.e. without licences or using licences that have expired.

We consistently promote these Russian initiatives during the work of the UN PoA review mechanisms. We are pleased to note that a significant proportion of our thoughts in this regard were reflected in the outcome document of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the UN PoA (New York, 6 to 10 June 2016). In particular, it focuses on the need to introduce measures at the national level to prevent illicit brokering, on the relevance of the use of end-user certificates, and on the importance of proper control of SALW throughout their entire life cycle as well as the prevention of unauthorized re-export.

We are ready for intensive joint work with all interested parties during the forthcoming UN PoA Review Conference in June 2018 to consolidate the results achieved at the Biennial Meeting in 2016 and outline tasks for further increasing the effectiveness of the Programme’s implementation.

The detailed preparation for the concluding event of the next UN PoA review cycle is acquiring particular importance. We take note of the efforts being made in this connection by the UN Secretariat and the President-elect of the 2018 Review Conference.

We also look forward to the timely submission in 2018 of the latest biennial national reports by the participating States on progress in the implementation of the UN PoA and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons. It is most regrettable that in 2016 only 89 States reported on measures taken in this regard, which is less than half the total number of UN Member States.

For its part, the Russian Federation consistently fulfils its obligations under the UN PoA and the International Tracing Instrument, and regularly submits the relevant national reports to the UN Secretariat.

We also continue to pay due attention to transparency mechanisms within the OSCE. In accordance with the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, the Russian Federation submits to the OSCE Secretariat on an annual basis information on its export of SALW to, and imports from, OSCE participating States during the previous calendar year, as well as information on the removal of SALW from illegal circulation and their destruction within the national borders.

At the same time, information continues to be exchanged with other OSCE participating States on national standards and practices for the marking of SALW, on the techniques and procedures for their destruction, on stockpile management and on ensuring the security of weapons.

Thank you for your attention.



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

FSC.JOUR/859

17 May 2017

Annex 2

ENGLISH

Original: SPANISH

853rd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 859, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Mr. Chairperson,

Spain fully aligns itself with the statement by the European Union. I should also like to make a statement in my national capacity.

First of all, I should like to thank this morning's speakers for their interesting and enriching presentations, and the Chairmanship for including this important issue on our agenda today.

This is the issue of measures to prevent the uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons (SALW), to which Spain has always been committed, just as it continues to be today.

Unfortunately, illicit trafficking in SALW has gained particular prominence in the international arena in recent years, as today's speakers have pointed out. While it is clear that these weapons alone are not a cause of armed conflict, their illicit trafficking into unstable areas can exacerbate such conflicts, greatly increasing the risk to the population. We have also recently witnessed how small arms, smuggled through illicit channels, have been commonly used to carry out attacks in Western countries.

On the other hand, it is well known that maritime transport is one of the principal means for the practice of illicit trafficking, including in SALW.

With this in mind, and recalling the measures already in place to combat trafficking by air in the OSCE area, Spain, together with France, Italy and Malta, has introduced to the agenda of Working Group A of this Forum a draft decision on the prevention of illicit trafficking in SALW and/or ammunition by sea, in order to work with all delegations to improve and refine this draft decision and to achieve the necessary consensus for its adoption.

Mr. Chairperson, we request that this statement be appended to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/859

17 May 2017

Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

853rd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 859, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF LUXEMBOURG

The Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM), a joint programme of the Government of Montenegro, the UNDP and the OSCE, was established in April 2007 following the Republic of Montenegro's request for a capacity-building programme for the demilitarization of and provision of safe storage capacities for small arms and light weapons (SALW). After having continuously supported the MONDEM project from its initiation with donations amounting to 160,000 euros, Luxembourg is now to donate a further 15,000 euros in 2017.

Furthermore, since 2012 Luxembourg has supported the Capacity Development Programme for Conventional Ammunition Stockpile Management for the Republic of Serbia (CASM) with contributions amounting to 110,000 euros. This project was initiated by the Ministry of Defence of Serbia in co-operation with the UNDP and the OSCE and is aimed at supporting the Serbian authorities in the destruction of conventional ammunition and renovation of ammunition storage facilities. As an expression of our commitment to this joint endeavour, Luxembourg will now donate an additional 20,000 euros in 2017.

We encourage all other participating States to take similar steps in support of the OSCE's projects on SALW and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA).