
Chairmanship: Monaco**774th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 10 December 2014

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 12.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. C. Braquetti

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

Agenda item 1: DISCUSSION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 2014
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL IN BASEL

Chairperson, Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; 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 Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/209/14), Switzerland, United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Situation in and around Ukraine:* Ukraine (FSC.DEL/208/14), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland 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, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/210/14), United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/212/14 Restr.), Germany, Latvia, Canada, Austria

1 Includes the addition of document symbols to page 1 of the journal.

- (b) *Financial contribution to the Trust Fund for Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition Projects: Germany (Annex 2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Annex 3), Czech Republic (Annex 4), Montenegro (Annex 5), FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America)*

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 17 December 2014, at 10:30 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



774th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 780, Agenda item 2(a)

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

Mr. Chairperson,

(Slide 1) We believe it is necessary, in furtherance of our presentation made several weeks ago, to share with our partners our assessment of the developments in Ukraine in October and November regarding the destabilizing accumulation of weapons and the consequences of their use by the official authorities in Kyiv.

(Slide 2) Despite the Minsk agreements reached in September, including on a ceasefire, we are obliged to note that Kyiv has not abandoned its plans to suppress by force the Donetsk and Luhansk People's Republics (DPR and LPR). This is evident from the fact that the Ukrainian troops, National Guard and territorial battalions have been reinforced, from the constant offensive operations to take better positions, and from the regular shelling of insurgent positions, residential areas and civilian infrastructure in the DPR and LPR.

(Slide 3) Examining the situation and taking into account the fact that the official authorities in Kyiv are using armed forces in order to solve the internal political conflict by military means and to suppress the civilian population, we continue to regard all the weapons that Ukraine has at its disposal as destabilizing.

We note that Kyiv continues to increase its destabilizing accumulation of weapons through domestic production and procurement.

(Slide 4) Thus, in the first half of 2014 the main Ukrainian companies selling armaments – Ukroboronprom, Ukroboronservice and Ukrinmash – sold defence items worth 85 million hryvnas (around 6.5 million US dollars) in Ukraine, including 35,900 Kalashnikov assault rifles, 1,237 RPG-7B grenade launchers, around 5,000 air-launched missiles and 60 FAGOT anti-tank rocket systems. Promoboronexport sold 10 BTR-70 armoured personnel carriers, and Spetstechnoexport 23 Reis unmanned aerial vehicles.

Ihor Odnoralov, deputy director of the Weapons and Military Equipment Development and Procurement Department of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence, announced on 10 September that he expected a shipment of 145 pieces of new materiel, along with 2,000 thermal imagers and 200 special communications sets.

At the end of October the Ukrainian armed forces purchased military equipment and armaments worth more than 150 million hryvnas (around 11.5 million US dollars).

In November the Ukrainian National Guard, fighting in the south-east of the country, was supplied with upgraded T-64 Bulat tanks.

In mid-November the Press Service of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence reported that measures had been taken to recommission 2S7 Pion 203mm self-propelled howitzers, which are now being used against the DPR and LPR.

According to Zorian Shkiryak, adviser to the Ukrainian Minister of the Interior, during only one week in early November Ukraine acquired heavy weapons worth 1 billion hryvnas (around 64.5 million US dollars) for the purposes of conducting a “special operation” in Donbas.

On 6 November, the Press Service of the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence announced plans to procure weapons and military equipment worth 792 million hryvnas (around 60 million US dollars) by the end of 2014.

(Slide 5) We should like to emphasize that weapons are not only accumulated but also used by Kyiv in a destabilizing manner, in the first place in terms of the numerous victims among the civilian population as a result of the use of weapons by the Ukrainian security structures.

According to the conservative United Nations estimates of 11 November, the hostilities in Ukraine have claimed the lives of 4,132 people, and 9,747 have been injured. Furthermore, 957 people were killed, including 119 women and 8 children, between the ceasefire established on 6 September and 18 November.

(Slide 6) We should like to provide you with a by no means complete list of civilian population losses as a result of the shelling of the DPR and LPR by the Ukrainian side in October and November.

On 13 October, 11 civilians were killed as a result of the shelling of Donetsk by Ukrainian units.

In October a shell hit the courtyard of school No. 57 in Donetsk, killing four people.

The shelling of Donetsk by Ukrainian troops deployed in Avdiivka and Peski using cluster munitions resulted in the killing of an employee of the International Committee of the Red Cross in early October.

(Slide 7) The use of cluster munitions by Ukrainian troops has been confirmed, *inter alia*, by the international human rights organization Human Rights Watch. According to its information, in October Donetsk was shelled by Ukrainian troops using Uragan and Smerch multiple-launch rocket systems. Moreover, the organization documented instances of shelling using cluster munitions of Donetsk, Makiivka, Ilovaysk and Novosvetlovka (Luhansk region) “from the territory controlled by government troops”. The United Nations

has already called for an urgent investigation of all the cases related to the use of cluster munitions.

(Slide 8) On 6 November, Ukrainian troops deployed in the vicinity of Avdiivka and Peski (near Donetsk airport) shelled the sports field of school No. 63 in Donetsk, killing two pupils and wounding several others.

(Slide 9) On 14 November, a woman was killed near a traffic police post on the road connecting Horlivka and Yasynuvata. On the same day, six people including two children were killed in a residential area of Horlivka.

On 19 November, there were two civilian casualties in Donetsk, and seven, including two children, in other towns and villages in the LPR.

We are not yet talking about the many people injured.

(Slide 10) Furthermore, Ukrainian troops are shelling hospitals, houses and civilian infrastructure, thereby depriving the civilian population of medical aid, housing, gas, drinking water and electricity, and creating a humanitarian disaster.

According to the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission, by the beginning of November about 2,400 houses in Luhansk alone had been damaged by shelling and were in need of repair.

People have been forced to leave their homes and seek refuge in the Russian Federation, Belarus and in other regions of Ukraine. Such massive population movements are also destabilizing the situation in neighbouring territories. We should like to point out that the number of refugees in Russia (about 900,000) is almost double the number of displaced persons on Ukrainian territory (about 467,000).

(Slide 11) We want to draw attention to the fact that the Ukrainian authorities are handing over weapons to radical nationalists and criminals, who form the bulk of the territorial battalions and National Guard units that we spoke about earlier. The consequences of such transfers are undoubtedly destabilizing.

In late September, burial sites were discovered in the villages of Kommunarka and Nizhnaya Krynka (on the territory of mine No. 22) in Donetsk region. They contained the bodies of four and five people respectively, including women, bearing signs of torture. The Aidar battalion had been stationed at these locations earlier. The fact that people had been buried here was confirmed by OSCE representatives.

As Einars Graudins, a Latvian human rights activist, said after visiting a number of burial sites with eight other international experts in late September: "There are currently 400 unidentified corpses in the mortuaries of Donetsk alone. It is obvious that their number will grow as bodies are exhumed from the graves discovered".

The possession of weapons, including heavy ones, by nationalists is destabilizing the situation in other regions of Ukraine as well.

Territorial battalions are involved in illegal seizures and the redistribution of property by force. For example, on 4 November fighters from the Aidar battalion occupied a helicopter landing pad in Kyiv. In the early hours of 9 November members of the same battalion barricaded themselves inside the Zaporizhia aluminium plant. On 10 November Azov fighters stormed the office of the Mariupolteploset company and appointed a new director.

Even some Ukrainian officials admit the danger of destabilization of the situation by armed nationalists in so-called volunteer battalions. The Kyiv prosecutor Serhiy Yuldashev described the actions of these paramilitary units in the Ukrainian capital as vigilantism and mayhem, expressing fears that the Aidar battalion could mount a military *coup d'état*.

(Slide 12) Vitaly Yarema, Prosecutor General of Ukraine, notes that weapons, in particular assault rifles and rocket launchers, are being illegally transferred from areas of combat operations conducted by Kyiv in south-east Ukraine and are subsequently used by criminal groups, as happened, for instance, when criminals attacked cash-in-transit couriers in Poltava region.

(Slide 13) Armed nationalists have considerable political influence on legislative and executive powers in Kyiv. Following pressure from them, the Ukrainian national holiday – Defenders of the Motherland Day – was switched to 14 October, which is the date of the founding of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army known for its collaboration with Nazi Germany during the Second World War and for the organization of the Volyn massacre, when over 100,000 Poles, Jews and Russians were slaughtered on the territory of what is now Ukraine. Changing the date of the holiday was bound to cause mass resentment on the part of those in Ukraine who do not share this Nazi ideology.

And this pressure is likely to increase further in the light of the results of the recent parliamentary elections in Ukraine, which provided seats in the Verkhovna Rada for a number of nationalist field commanders as well as representatives of Oleh Lyashko's Radical Party (22 seats), the Svoboda Party (6 seats), Right Sector (1 seat) and other nationalistic movements.

(Slide 14) Another destabilizing factor is the presence of foreign mercenaries in the Ukrainian security structures, who are not only involved in the training of Ukrainian troops but also actively engaged in fighting. In addition to the information provided in our previous presentation, we should like to reveal two more names of foreign mercenaries operating in Ukraine: Giorgi Bezhanishvili, a Georgian national, and Saber Saboorgharabaghlo, a Bulgarian national, whose passport you can see on this slide.

On 29 October, the Swedish-born activist and film director Jonas Öhman, who now resides permanently in Lithuania, said that during a conference on Ukraine held by the Lithuanian Seimas it was publically confirmed that Lithuanian soldiers were fighting in Ukraine.

There is a danger of an increase in the numbers of mercenaries in Ukraine. For example, in mid-September Semen Semenchenko (also known as Kostyantyn Hrishyn), commander of the Donbas battalion, met in Washington with United States politicians and said that he had signed a contract with retired United States military instructors to train

fighters in Ukraine in accordance with the United States Navy SEALs special forces programme.

(Slide 15) Ukraine is actively seeking options to purchase the materiel it needs from abroad. Some participating States provide it with these items despite the patently destabilizing nature of such arrangements.

According to the information available on the Facebook page of Zorian Shkiryak, adviser to the Ukrainian Minister of the Interior, Western countries have begun delivering state-of-the-art weapons, and the Ukrainian security forces will soon begin to use the new artillery, sniper rifles and off-road vehicles, modern means of high-accuracy target tracking and fire control.

(Slide 16) In June 6,000 thermobaric rounds for RPG-7B grenade launchers were manufactured at the VMZ machinery plant in Bulgaria for subsequent delivery to the Ukrainian State corporation Ukrspetsexport.

The Bulgarian Arsenal company produced 20,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles scheduled for delivery to the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence at the end of October.

(Slide 17) Derek Chollet, United States Assistant Secretary of Defense for International Security Affairs, said in October: “Poroshenko has been asking us for lethal assistance. That is not something that we have decided to do at the moment, but we are building a work programme that may eventually get to that point.” This confession coincided with an official statement by Washington on providing 46 million US dollars of military aid to Ukraine. “We’re working on restoring capacities of the Ukrainian Navy,” Derek Chollet noted.

On 20 November, Tony Blinken, Deputy Adviser to the United States President for National Security, announced in the Senate that consideration should be given to the possibility of providing “defensive lethal equipment” to Ukraine.

During his stay in Washington, Semen Semenchenko, commander of the Donbas battalion, lobbied the United States Congress to pass draft laws allocating 100 million US dollars for urgent military assistance to Ukraine.

In accordance with the agreement reached between Kyiv and Washington, the United States will facilitate negotiations between Ukraine and the Czech Republic aimed at supplying Kyiv with materiel. The United States embassy in Prague is already holding consultations with the Czech Foreign and Defences Ministries on the possibility of direct Czech-Ukrainian talks regarding deliveries of materiel to Kyiv. They are also discussing the possibility of including Poland, Slovakia and Hungary in a deal if Prague fails to provide all the necessary items to Ukraine.

(Slide 18) Ukraine and Lithuania negotiated a contract for a shipment of Mi-24 used helicopter blades from Kaunas aircraft repair plant. Kyiv also purchases lifting and tail blades and propeller-driven gear assemblies for helicopters in Latvia, Estonia, Afghanistan, Georgia and Azerbaijan.

(Slide 19) In October the new NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, announced the opening of voluntary donation funds in member countries of the alliance to provide assistance to Ukraine in upgrading its armed forces.

Under the directive of the Ukrainian Presidential Administration, the Ukrainian Ministry of Defence is preparing a list of materiel (mainly sighting systems and navigation and communications equipment) to be purchased, including from abroad.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Defence has also prepared a separate request for 550 chemical warfare agent analysers and 200 regenerating cartridges for self-contained breathing apparatus. Such a request raises concerns about the possible use of chemical weapons in the conflict zone or plans to strike chemical industry facilities located in the DPR and LPR.

The Ukrainian Ministry of Defence sent an official request to the United States of America, Canada, the United Kingdom, Japan, Switzerland, Latvia, France, Norway, Finland, Romania and Bulgaria to provide aid for its armed forces.

(Slide 20) As a result, in addition to others, the following assistance packages have been received or guaranteed:

United States of America:

- The parties signed two contracts worth 5,262,697 US dollars for the supply of communication facilities and other equipment (80 RF-7850M backpack radios, 100 helmets, 9,000 camouflage fatigues) and an additional contract worth 1,790,423 US dollars for the supply of 96 RF-7850M radios;
- A contract worth 978,616 US dollars for the delivery of five mine-clearing systems;
- A contract worth 2,972,003 US dollars for the delivery of 1,000 helmets and 2,000 bulletproof vests;
- Ukraine received two robot-assisted mine-clearing systems worth 276,518 US dollars;
- Ukraine acquired a set of equipment for rapid chemical testing worth 515,386 US dollars;

The United States has already shipped to Ukraine 176 modern radio sets, 150 optical sights and 150 thermal imagers. An additional 285 night-vision devices will be delivered to Ukraine soon.

The request for financing and arrangement of maintenance of the Ukrainian Mi-8 and Mi-24 helicopters and the procurement of AN/PVS-7B/D night-vision devices is currently under consideration by the United States.

Deliveries are made under the United States Foreign Military Financing Program, which provides for shipment free of charge.

(Slide 21) Czech Republic:

- The possibility of providing Ukraine with spare parts for Mi-8 and Mi-24 helicopters is under consideration;
- A batch of L-39C combat-capable trainer aircraft is to be sold to Ukraine for conversion into L-39ZO light attack aircraft at factories in Odessa and Chuhuiv.

France:

- The delivery of 2,500 tactical equipment sets has been guaranteed.

(Slide 22) Shipment of materiel to Ukraine is also carried out illegally with the active involvement of Poland.

Thus, the authorities in Kyiv buy armaments and military equipment in European Union Member States through various European private companies using a Polish end-user certificate. The Polish side presents fake Afghan or Iraqi certificates cleared by Polish diplomatic missions to cover the subsequent illegal transit of materiel to Ukraine.

Armaments purchased in this way are sent to the Polish-Ukrainian border and then delivered to Ukrainian territory at night through the Yagodin, Shehyni, Rava-Ruska and Krakovets checkpoints on two or three trucks carrying 20-tonne containers.

(Slide 23) Under the same scheme (Polish-Ukrainian contracts involving offshore firms including those registered in Cyprus) 35,000 CZ.58 assault rifles, more than 600 RPG-7 grenade launchers, 30 82mm mortars with 2,000 shells, 10,000 Kalashnikov assault rifles with various modifications, more than 5 million cartridges and Grom man-portable air defence systems have been delivered from Czech Republic.

(Slide 24) Kyiv has openly declared that the ceasefire established under the Minsk agreements is being used to regroup Ukrainian troops in order to solve problems by military means.

On 24 October, Yuriy Lutsenko, adviser to the Ukrainian President, announced on television that: “A ceasefire and achievement of peace are especially useful for us. All of our four tank factories are currently working in three shifts. During that time several hundred restored armoured vehicles have been delivered to the anti-terrorist operation zone. We also need a ceasefire to obtain high-precision equipment, and military and financial support from the West.”

Markiyan Lubkivsky, adviser to the Director of the Ukrainian Security Service, echoed this on national television on 2 and 7 November: “Sooner or later we should proceed to very active actions. ... I think we can win this war using ‘the Croatian scenario’. In 1991 Croatia started the war and finished it in 1995 as a result of successful special operations.”

(Slide 25) Preparation for an offensive by Ukrainian forces is demonstrated not only through statements by the Ukrainian officials in Kyiv but also through the permanent build-up of Ukrainian units in the conflict zone, about which we have already spoken today.

In this regard we can confidently say that the supplies of materiel to Ukraine by partners are clearly of a destabilizing nature, leading to a resumption of large-scale combat operations, mass casualties among the civilian population, destruction of houses, medical, educational and other administrative institutions and civilian infrastructure in the DPR and LPR.

(Slide 26) We once again call on the participating States to refrain from the export of materiel to Ukraine until the complete normalization of the situation there and to make every effort to arrive at a political solution to the Ukrainian internal conflict, including through strict and full compliance with the Minsk agreements.

(Slide 27) Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.JOUR/780/Corr.1
10 December 2014
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: GERMAN

774th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 780, Agenda item 2(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,

A few weeks ago Germany supported the Ukraine Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Fund through a contribution of 1 million euros.

Obsolete munitions, unsuitable repositories and obsolete weapons systems pose an insidious danger for the inhabitants of many countries.

As you will no doubt recall, a group of States have regularly requested support in the past in the destruction of obsolete weapons and ammunition stockpiles and the securing of repositories. These projects, project number 1100745, are supported by the OSCE together with what is now a large number of financial donors.

It gives me pleasure to inform you today that the Federal Republic of Germany will once again participate in the funding of a small arms and light weapons project, on this occasion by contributing to the Trust Fund.

The OSCE project will be funded in 2015 through a contribution by Germany of 650,000 euros. Some of this money will be used to finance a project in Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view to increasing that region's security.

I thank you for your attention and request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.JOUR/780/Corr.1
10 December 2014
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

774th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 780, Agenda item 2(b)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Mr. Chairperson,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina would like to take this opportunity to thank Germany for its additional pledge of funds for the project Security Upgrade of Bosnia and Herzegovina Ammunition and Weapons Storage Sites.

This ongoing project has the objective of upgrading security infrastructure at the ammunition and weapons storage sites of Bosnia and Herzegovina and is being implemented jointly by the Ministry of Defence of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the UNDP, and the European Union Military Force (EUFOR).

Dear colleagues,

We would like to assure you that Bosnia and Herzegovina is a credible partner and a fully fledged OSCE participating State. As such we are fully committed to determining optimum models for our own security and to complying with international commitments that we have undertaken vis-à-vis the OSCE and its participating States.

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition, we also wish to thank the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation, the Conflict Prevention Centre, and the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition for helping to make this project possible.

Mr. Chairperson, I would kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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

FSC.JOUR/780/Corr.1
10 December 2014
Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

774th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 780, Agenda item 2(b)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Czech Republic would like to make the following announcement.

The Czech authorities have been closely following and supporting a number of projects related to OSCE participating States' requirements for the safe and secure storage of ammunition and equipment and related demilitarization projects.

Today, in connection with requirements for the upgrade of storage facilities for small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition in Montenegro, I am happy to announce that the Czech Republic has decided to donate 20,000 euros to the relevant OSCE project.

This project in question is the extrabudgetary project (project no. 2700240) for the implementation of the MONDEM programme component "SALW (Conventional Ammunition) Demilitarization", the purpose of which is to contribute to the ongoing project activities aimed at improving national physical security through the management of stockpiles of SALW in Montenegro.

I would kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of this meeting.



774th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 780, Agenda item 2(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MONTENEGRO

Montenegro welcomes the Czech Republic to the club of contributors to the MONDEM programme, and we are very grateful for this significant donation.

This donation is the result of fruitful co-operation between the Czech Republic and Montenegro in the field of security.

In response to the fact of surplus ordnance representing one of our biggest internal security risks, the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro has continuously invested significant efforts in destroying munitions and in improving the conditions for their safe storage. I would like to emphasize the importance of the assistance we have received from partners supporting our efforts.

If the MONDEM programme is to be brought to a successful conclusion, it is essential that funds be provided for the continuation of planned activities in its third phase.

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me to provide a short update on the current status of the MONDEM programme and other activities on the reconstruction of storage capacities.

At present, the third sub-phase of the third phase of the destruction of ordnance is being implemented. So far, 30 tons of the planned 719 tons of ordnance have been destroyed.

Regarding the reconstruction of storage capacities, on 14 November three facilities at the storage site of Brezovik were officially opened, each with a capacity of 400 tons. These storage facilities were reconstructed within the MONDEM programme and with the support of the EU.

Work on an additional three facilities is in progress and should be finished in the course of January 2015.

I would like once again to thank the Czech Republic and to express the hope that the donations for the MONDEM programme made through the OSCE will continue, so that we will be able to conclude this programme successfully and close this important chapter in increasing safety and stability in Montenegro and the region.