

**Permanent Mission of Ukraine** to the International Organizations in Vienna

ENGLISH only

## <u>Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine</u> <u>at the 855<sup>th</sup> FSC Plenary Meeting</u>

(31 May 2017 at 10.00, Hofburg) (Agenda item 1)

## Mr.Chairperson, Distinguished Colleagues,

Ukraine has aligned itself with the EU statement, which we fully support. In addition, let me also make some remarks in the national capacity.

We join other delegations in warmly welcoming today's speakers and thank them for their valuable contribution to the FSC discussion on the "Impact of Scientific and Technological Progress on Security and Arms Control".

Analysis of the impact of technological progress on security and arms control shows that the innovative development of the world creates new and complements the existing threats and challenges to security and sustainable development, transforms the nature and form of the international conflicts. Global and regional security in recent years were unable to respond effectively to the new range of military threats. Low effectiveness of traditional security structures, whose main task was to prevent large-scale armed attack from the outside led to review of approaches to security both at the legislative and institutional levels. The emergence of new security concepts, new strategies and doctrines, military reform of national armed forces in almost all leading countries of the world and adaptation processes in the UN, NATO, OSCE to new challenges of the third millennium – are a clear confirmation.

International and national security may provide a variety of ways, including - through the improvement of existing and creation of new weapons systems that can keep a potential aggressor from the outbreak of war, or, in the case of a start provide a guaranteed win over him. Advanced researches have meant that in the early 21st century some new models and systems of weapon were developed, among which are the following: - robotic weapons and laser weapons; - Space armament; - High-speed aircrafts; - Non-lethal microwave weapon; - Nuclear weapons; - "Tasers" (electroshock equipment for remote use); - "Electromagnetic bomb"; - Multiple-layered missile defense; - Information Technologies.

The development of new technologies, including information, underlies the "revolution in military affairs." Besides the use of high technology on the battlefield, contemporary conflicts are characterized by wide media coverage, conducting socio-psychological and "information war".

New technologies generate not only "hard" (military), but also "soft" (nonmilitary) challenges and threats. This has led to asymmetric actions, hybrid warfare, to countering to which requires a new approach to detect them at an early phase, to observe, counteract and neutralize.

International law as it stands is inadequate because it does not keep pace with new areas of international activities. It requires further development so that the law could avoid voids, presence of which can formally allow new forms of aggression, economic and political expansion.

All valid international agreements on arms control were signed in the 1980th and provide control over only five types of weapons. Control over other types of weapons, including modern high-tech types is not provided at all. Thus, in addition to use modern achievements of science and technology to perform tasks on security and arms control, it is necessary to develop and conclude new international agreements that would legitimize efforts to control the types of weapons not covered by existing international agreements.

## Distinguished colleagues,

The situation with military security in Europe and around the world remains tense. We are witnessing emergence of new or escalation of existing armed conflicts with use of the most sophisticated weapons, and latest achievements in the field of warfare technologies. We have to acknowledge that the results of scientific and technological progress are often used for the purposes of improving the combat capabilities of weapons and strengthening their destructive power instead of strengthening peace and security.

Meanwhile, the peaceful potential of scientific and technological progress, as well as the possibilities of using it for the purpose of strengthening security, preventing military conflicts, resolving them and overcoming the consequences, remain underused. One of such opportunities is to promote international cooperation in the use of outer space to monitor military activities on the ground. Today about 40 countries have their own satellites moving in the near-Earth orbits. Their total number exceeds 140 pieces and continues to increase yearly. They are equipped with sensors that allow observing the Earth's surface with high spatial resolution in the visible, infrared and radio electromagnetic ranges.

There are a lot of opportunities for international cooperation in obtaining, analyzing, processing and using of information received from satellites in the interests of Global and European security. One of them is creation of the Aerospace Data Bank with periodically updated information on the situation within the areas of European security concerns.

Concerning the WA activity, Ukraine as an active and dedicated WA participating state since the 2014 spring session, has made a number of presentations with credible evidence of illicit presence of Russia's modern sophisticated weapons and military equipment in the east of Ukraine.

Unfortunately, despite the numerous calls from the vast majority of the WA participating States to stop doing so, the RF still continues to illicitly transfer its conventional arms and related equipment to the territory of Ukraine with the aim of destabilizing political and security situation there.

Russia continues to ignore numerous calls of the Ukrainian side to provide reasonable explanation of whereby the Russian-originated weapons continue to flow into Ukraine's territory through the Russia-controlled part of the state border, what the Russian side has been doing to prevent such illicit transfers? Such criminal actions by Russia are in breach of both the letter and the spirit of the WA. They are aimed at undermining the Regime and must be stopped immediately and unconditionally.

There is an almost unanimous understanding among the WA participating States that Russia flagrantly violates its commitments. This has been repeatedly stated by the vast majority of delegations. Further concealment of this problem will only aggravate the situation.

## I thank you for the attention.