



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
at the 788-th FSC Plenary Meeting  
(13 May 2015 at 10.00, Hofburg)  
Agenda item 1**

**Madam Chair,**

The Delegation of Ukraine joins other delegations in warmly welcoming today's speakers and thanking them for their valuable contributions to the FSC discussion on addressing risks stemming from the illicit trafficking and destabilising accumulation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA).

In connection with the complicated security situation in the OSCE area, in particular with regard to the crisis in and around Ukraine we would like to bring to your attention the following.

As we meet today, Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity continue to be violated by the Russian Federation in defiance of international law and the fundamental OSCE principles and commitments.

Therefore, as the illegal supply by the Russian Federation of SALW and conventional weapons to the illegal armed groups in eastern Ukraine continues and its tragic impact on the safety and the security of the civilian population has demonstrated, these issues require a decisive and urgent response by the international community.

**Madam Chair,  
Distinguished colleagues,**

At the regional level, Ukraine cooperates closely with participating States of the OSCE in developing effective measures aimed at terminating and eradicating the illegal proliferation of SALW and SCA. In conformity with the OSCE Documents on SALW Ukraine submits each year to the OSCE Secretariat information concerning its exports of SALW to the OSCE States and imports from those States for the previous calendar year, and separately on confiscated small arms and light weapons removed from illegal trade and on their destruction in Ukrainian territory. Similarly, Ukraine exchanges information with other OSCE States concerning its technology and procedures for destroying those weapons, managing stockpiles of such weapons and ensuring their security.

Ukraine supports implementation of the OSCE projects assisting participating States in the destruction of surplus small arms and lights weapons as well as surplus conventional ammunition.

**Madam Chair,**

Ukraine duly implements provisions of the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA and believes that all OSCE participating States should also observe them. The developments over the last year in the eastern part of Ukraine cause serious concerns.

Namely, foreign pieces of SALW with combat ammunition are illegally transferred into our territory without due observation of any export and custom control rules and procedures that entails following transfer of SALW to terrorists' hands and causes destabilizing accumulation of SALW in the regions, which are under control of terrorists. So such activity of the Russian Federation contradicts provisions of the OSCE Document on SALW.

Therefore, I would conclude by calling the Russian Federation to halt aggression against my country, withdraw its troops, mercenaries and weaponry from the territory of Ukraine and reverse the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

**Thank you, Madam Chair.**