

Chairmanship: Portugal

833rd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 2 November 2016

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12 noon

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. da Graça Mira Gomes

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUE OF THE
TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION
ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 5/16 (FSC.DEC/5/16) on the dates and venue of the twenty-seventh Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/206/16), Slovakia-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 Liechtenstein, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/207/16), United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2), Canada

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Proposal for a draft FSC Vienna Document Plus decision on strengthening co-operation as regards hazardous or dangerous incidents of a military nature (FSC.DEL/218/15/Rev.6):* Poland (Annex 3), Sweden
- (b) *Visit to a tactical air base and airborne brigade in Poland conducted on 25 and 26 October 2016:* Poland
- (c) *Recent events relating to women, peace and security:* FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Italy)
- (d) *Briefing on projects on small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition in the OSCE area:* FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary), Bosnia and Herzegovina
- (e) *Workshop on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, held in Amman, Jordan, from 17 to 20 October 2016:* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/160/16 OSCE+), Russian Federation
- (f) *Visit to an air base and military facility in Montenegro conducted from 18 to 21 October 2016:* Montenegro
- (g) *Meeting of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons, to be held on 4 November 2016:* Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Slovenia)
- (h) *Matters of protocol:* Albania

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 9 November 2016, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/839
2 November 2016
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

833rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 839, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied by military force and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and the UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the illegal occupation and annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/839
2 November 2016
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

833rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 839, Agenda item 2

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

Dear Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



833rd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 839, Agenda item 3(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF POLAND

Madam Chairperson,
Distinguished delegates,

Poland, as a main sponsor of a proposal on strengthening co-operation as regards hazardous or dangerous incidents of a military nature (paragraph 17 of the Vienna Document) has the honour to briefly introduce the latest version of that proposal – revision 6 – which was distributed on 17 October under reference number FSC.DEL/218/15/Rev.6.

In comparison with the revision 5 version of the text (dated 12 July 2016), the co-sponsors have decided to further improve and enhance the proposal to make it even more objective, useful and acceptable.

Paragraph 17.3 has been expanded substantially, because the previous version was generally limited to the preventive element, and the text concerning the obligation to provide relevant information (on military activities) did not include any concrete parameters. In the new version of this paragraph, we have clarified that the information on military activities which could lead to hazardous or dangerous military incidents should be provided to neighbouring participating States before the start of a planned activity and should include the type, timing, location and duration of the activity, the types of military forces being employed and where applicable, the closest proximity and location of the planned activity in relation to another participating State's border. With these clarifications and additions, paragraph 17.3 has become more meaningful and practical.

In paragraph 17.5, in the text referring to consultation on the establishment of a special mission, the phrase “with interested participating States” was replaced by “with affected participating States”.

The co-sponsors also decided to include add new paragraph 17.5.1, proposing limits for two aspects of such a special mission – on the number of participating States (no more than 10) and on the duration (no more than 5 days, with the possibility of extension). The general approach is that given the nature and goals of such missions, they should preferably be short in duration and limited with regard to the number of participants.

Paragraph 17.5.4 provides for the areas and infrastructure to which access should be granted for a mission to be restricted to those relevant to the incident.

Paragraph 17.5.5 is new and is devoted to the issue of the safety and security of the members of a mission residing and working on the territory of the receiving State.

Paragraph 17.6 has been supplemented with a reference to Chapter X of the Vienna Document (in addition to references to paragraphs 16 and 18).

To stress the validity, importance and continued applicability of existing bilateral, multilateral or regional arrangements and commitments relating to the prevention of incidents, the co-sponsors added new paragraph 17.7, which is in line with paragraph 138 of the Vienna Document (Chapter X on regional measures).

We hope that all the proposed modifications to our proposal will find the support of the participating States. We would like to emphasize again that we attach great importance to this proposal. On this occasion, we kindly appeal to all participating States which have not yet co-sponsored the proposal to consider doing so, thus demonstrating their commitment to strengthening co-operation as regards hazardous military incidents, as provided for in the Vienna Document. By developing this proposal, the co-sponsors are ensuring that any new elements in the mechanisms for co-operation regarding hazardous incidents are as robust as possible and consistent with the existing provisions of the Vienna Document.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson, and kindly request you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.DEC/5/16
2 November 2016

Original: ENGLISH

833rd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 839, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 5/16
DATES AND VENUE OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Decides that the twenty-seventh Annual Implementation Meeting (AIAM) will be held on 28 February and 1 March 2017 in Vienna.