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**Chairmanship: the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**

**694th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 10 October 2012

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 11.45 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador Z. Dabik

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

*Statement by the Secretary General of the OSCE, Mr. L. Zannier:* Secretary General, Cyprus-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/121/12), Switzerland (also on behalf of Germany), Turkey, United States of America, Russian Federation, Chairperson

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Request for assistance in the disposal and destruction of surplus special rocket fuels in Bulgaria:* Bulgaria (FSC.DEL/120/12 OSCE+), FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary)

(b) *Updated electronic provision of Belgium's global exchange of military information:* Belgium (Annex 1)

Agenda item 3:           DECISION ON THE MEETING OF THE HEADS OF  
VERIFICATION CENTRES 2012

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 8/12 (FSC.DEC/8/12) on the meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres 2012, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 4:           ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a)    *Distribution of the third quarterly CPC survey on CSBM information exchanged in 2012 (FSC.GAL/114/12 Restr.):* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (b)    *Regional seminar for Central Asia on the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, held in Astana from 3 to 5 October 2012:* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Kazakhstan, Switzerland, FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Germany)
- (c)    *Vienna Document 2011 specified area inspection visit to the Russian Federation led by the United States of America, conducted from 17 to 20 September 2012:* United States of America (Annex 2), Russian Federation, United Kingdom, Germany, Spain, Chairperson
- (d)    *Matters of protocol:* Hungary, Russian Federation, Chairperson
- (e)    *Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, to be held on 13 December 2012:* Chairperson
- (f)    *Distribution of the updated Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons with regard to Possible Implementation Steps (FSC.DEL/118/12 OSCE+):* Chairperson

4.    Next meeting:

Wednesday, 17 October 2012, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/700  
10 October 2012  
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

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**694th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 700, Agenda item 2(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Colleagues,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

In compliance with FSC Decision No. 6/01 on the implementation of data exchanges relating to major weapon and equipment systems, the Kingdom of Belgium provided all participating States in 2002 with a global update in electronic form (CD-ROM) of the technical data and photographs relating to its major weapon and equipment systems, in pursuance of the Vienna Document and the Global Exchange of Military Information.

Ten years after this communication and with the aim of contributing to transparency, mutual trust and security within this Organization, Belgium has produced a new CD-ROM compiling all its data from 2002 to date and has the honour to make this new global update available to all participating States today.

We would be grateful, Mr. Chairperson, if you could attach this statement to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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**694th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 700, Agenda item 4(c)

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Chairperson,

For the period 17–20 September a U.S.-led inspection team travelled to Russia to conduct a Vienna Document 2011 (VD11) inspection of a specified area comprising some 15,000 square kilometres in Russia’s Southern Military District; the Kapustin Yar training area took up roughly 25 per cent of the specified area. This was one of four locations where OSCE States had been told “Kavkaz-2012” activities would take place.

En route to the Kapustin Yar training area early on 18 September, accompanied by the Russian escort team, the inspection team was stopped at the outskirts of the city of Kapustin Yar by uniformed security forces and was informed that passage through the city was denied because the city was a sensitive area.

When the inspection team asked to access the training area by an alternative route, the team was told that the entire training area was “sensitive” and no access would be granted, thus preventing the team from inspecting in a location where Russia had publicly indicated that conventional forces activity subject to the Vienna Document – and related to the training exercise Kavkaz-2012 – would take place. No effort was made to identify more specific sensitive points or to limit the restricted areas, which would have enabled the inspection of these Kavkaz-2012 military activities to proceed, and would have been more appropriate under the Vienna Document.

We appreciate the professionalism of the escort team and the briefings provided by the two units that are reported under VD11 as being located in the specified area, in addition to the transparency offered by the Russian Federation about Kavkaz-2012, and especially the briefings provided in the FSC and the invitations to a small group of foreign military observers. Nonetheless we are disappointed and must emphasize that these actions do not invalidate the need to fulfil commitments made under VD11 to provide transparency and access to our armed forces.

It is our profound desire that we will be able to use this opportunity to work together to improve and strengthen our commitments to military transparency and our confidence- and

security-building measures, and most particularly to give greater impetus to our efforts to modernize the Vienna Document.

The full inspection report was circulated through the OSCE Communications Network and can be obtained under CBM/US/12/0017/F35/O.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. Please attach this statement to the journal of the day.

**694th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 700, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 8/12  
MEETING OF THE HEADS OF VERIFICATION CENTRES 2012**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming that the OSCE Vienna Document 2011 (VD 2011) remains a key instrument for confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs) and noting that the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) provides an important venue to discuss the implementation of agreed measures under the provisions of the VD 2011,

Taking note of the discussions and views expressed during the twenty-second AIAM,

Recalling that the aim of the Heads of Verification Centres meeting (HoV meeting) is to exchange experiences and information on technical aspects of implementation of agreed measures under the provisions of the VD 2011,

Recognizing the expectations expressed by the participating States for a substantial outcome of the 2012 HoV meeting,

Decides:

1. To call for a HoV meeting on 13 December 2012;
2. To task the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) to prepare and chair the meeting;
3. That the agenda for the 2012 meeting should include the following topics:
  - Current challenges and shortcomings in the implementation with regard to visits to airbases, visits to military facilities and demonstrations of new types of major weapons and equipment systems;
  - Implications of budgetary cuts and declining resources;
  - Current challenges and shortcomings in the implementation with regard to inspections and evaluation visits;
4. To task the CPC to report on the HoV meeting at the opening session of the twenty-third AIAM.