



Chairmanship: Greece

600th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 20 January 2010

Opened: 11.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. Marinaki

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

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GREEK
CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FSC: PRESENTATION BY
H.E. MR. PANOS BEGLITIS, ALTERNATE MINISTER OF
NATIONAL DEFENSE OF GREECE

Chairperson, Alternate Minister of National Defense of Greece (FSC.DEL/1/10), Spain-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/5/10), United States of America (Annex 1), Kazakhstan (FSC.DEL/6/10), United Kingdom, Russian Federation, Hungary, Ireland

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Project on the destruction of small arms and light weapons in Serbia*: Serbia (Annex 2)

(b) *Proposal for a draft decision on conflict prevention and crisis management in the OSCE area (FSC-PC.DEL/1/10/Corr.1)*: Russian Federation (Annex 3)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Ratification of the Convention on Cluster Munitions*: Belgium (Annex 4)
- (b) *Assistance to Ukraine for its project on reducing the risks of explosive remnants of war*: United States of America, Ukraine
- (c) *Update on projects regarding stockpiles of conventional ammunition*: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Denmark) (FSC.DEL/4/10 Restr.)
- (d) *Update on projects regarding small arms and light weapons*: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons (United Kingdom) (FSC.DEL/7/10 Restr.)
- (e) *Discussion on a proposed treaty on European security*: Russian Federation, Chairperson
- (f) *Organizational matters*: Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (g) *Matters of protocol*: Sweden, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 27 January 2010, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/606
20 January 2010
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

600th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 606, Agenda item 1

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

Good morning, Madam Chairperson,

On behalf of the United States, I congratulate Greece on its assumption of the FSC Chairmanship and welcome you to the Chair. Given the professionalism shown by Greece during its OSCE Chairmanship last year, there is no doubt that we are in very good hands. As always, the United States looks forward to working with all of its FSC colleagues toward our shared goals of promoting security and stability in the OSCE area.

We also want to thank His Excellency Minister Beglitis for sharing his vision of work for the Forum, and we look forward to his and our success.

The United States continues to view the Forum for Security Co-operation as a vital forum for advancing the political-military dimension of European security and we are ready to turn our efforts to the work awaiting us in 2010.

Madam Chairperson, FSC colleagues,

The United States continues to embrace firmly a comprehensive approach to security in Europe that encompasses the politico-military, economic and environmental, and human dimensions. And in the face of the dynamic and changing nature of European security, particularly in the context of the ongoing Corfu Process, we must ensure that the FSC remains a central forum in our efforts to strengthen our politico-military toolbox for meeting the challenges of the twenty-first century.

In Athens, Deputy Secretary Steinberg noted that the confidence- and security-building measures contained in the Vienna Document were being implemented with a high degree of success and that we looked forward to discussing ways to make that instrument more effective. We will be interested to hear from our partners about their suggestions for strengthening stability and security and increasing transparency, co-operation and confidence within the OSCE area. Our work within the Corfu Process adds another level for consideration as we carefully evaluate how new ideas can support our work on European security more generally. Our activity must be tempered with a firm understanding of the larger context within which we operate.

The negotiation and implementation of confidence- and security-building measures are this body's bread and butter, and we note that a number of proposals are currently awaiting the Forum's attention and action. We look forward to a thorough evaluation of the merits of each proposal. Furthermore, we want to continue our efforts to further intensify the Security Dialogue, in order to better address key security issues in the OSCE area and also wish to explore means to improve implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. We also look forward to building on the momentum of the last session with regard to UNSCR 1540. We anticipate that these discussions will evolve productively in the coming months.

The United States wishes success to the incoming chair, and continues to assure our FSC partners of our co-operation and support in the coming session.

Madam Chairperson, I request that this statement be added to the journal of the day.



600th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 606, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SERBIA

Madam Chair,

The Republic of Serbia has the honour to inform you about its achievements in 2009 related to the Project of destruction of SALW.

The project was realized in compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia and UNDP, in line with OSCE document and decisions and the UN Programme of Action on SALW. The financial support was provided by the Kingdom of Norway.

In accordance with the Implementation Plan 27,000 pieces of SALW were destroyed.

A Certain number of pieces originated from the Ministry of Interior surplus, while the rest were seized from criminals or voluntarily handed in by the citizens.

The destruction was carried out in the Centre for recycling in Zeleznik on 3 October and 21 November 2009, using environmentally and economically most acceptable method of destruction by pressing.

We enclose the detailed list of the destroyed SALW according to the type, which are:

– Automatic and semi-automatic rifles	7,670 pieces
– Carbines and small calibre rifles	3,279 pieces
– Hunting shot guns	2,556 pieces
– Pistols and revolvers	7,722 pieces
– Air guns and rifles	5,311 pieces
– Smoke gas throwers	a dozen pieces
– Light weapons	450 pieces

The Republic of Serbia intends to continue the process of reduction of SALW, in accordance with UN and OSCE standards, improving the safety level of its own citizens and contributing to the regional security.

Using this opportunity the Republic of Serbia expresses its gratitude to the Kingdom of Norway for its financial support and to the UNDP staff involved in this project.

Thank you Madam Chair.



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

FSC.JOUR/606
20 January 2010
Annex 3

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

600th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 606, Agenda item 2(b)

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

Yesterday the Permanent Mission of Russia to the OSCE and the delegation of the Russian Federation on military security and arms control jointly distributed a draft decision on conflict prevention and crisis management in the OSCE area. Many delegations are already familiar with the text. It was first presented on 16 November of last year in the form of a draft ministerial decision for the OSCE Ministerial Council meeting in Athens, but has not yet been discussed in detail. We have now decided to reissue it as a draft joint decision of the Permanent Council and the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), since the question of conflicts falls within the competence of both decision-making bodies of our Organization. We expect that discussions on this document will be held in parallel in both the Permanent Council and the Forum. If a consensus can be reached, the draft could finally be adopted at a joint meeting, as provided for under paragraph II(B)9 of the Rules of Procedure of the OSCE.

So far for the procedural aspects. Let us turn now to matters of substance.

We regard the draft as a contribution to the work that has now started on strengthening the potential of the OSCE for dealing with crises, as provided for in the Athens documents on the development of the Corfu Process and in Ministerial Council Decision No. 16/09 on the work of the FSC in 2010. The objective of this draft is the agreement of uniform principles for the prevention and resolution of crisis situations, principles that would be applied – a point that should be especially stressed – equally to all conflicts in our region.

The events of August 2008 once again demonstrated that the state of affairs in this area is anything but satisfactory. The relevant procedures and mechanisms agreed upon within our Organization are far from perfect and do not yet make it possible to guarantee more or less reliably that events can be prevented from developing in a dangerous manner. Very often, subjective factors, the political environment along with political sympathies and antipathies take on critical importance in this connection. All this makes the situation difficult to predict and at times leads to a policy of double standards. The Russian proposal is aimed at establishing clearer, more comprehensible and more effective rules for the conduct of States in the face of crisis situations.

The key issue here, it would appear, is whether it is possible in principle to agree on such uniform rules. For, as some of our partners have rightly noted, each conflict is unique in its own way. There are no universal or minutely detailed guidelines for their resolution, nor can there be. It is necessary, in each separate case, to take maximum account of specific local factors. All this is unquestionably true. Nevertheless, the experience acquired in recent decades makes it clear that, despite local particularities, there are a number of basic principles that can and should be applied equally to all crisis situations, if in fact we seriously wish to resolve them. The most typical example is the principle calling for the renunciation of the use, or the threat of the use, of force, as already enshrined in many fundamental documents of the United Nations and the OSCE. As the recent tragic events in our region have once again confirmed, any failure to observe this principle is fraught with the risk of disastrous consequences. There is also, however, a whole range of fundamental considerations that apply to any conflict regardless of its geographical location or causes, the nature of the relations between the parties to the conflict, the role of international mediators and other similar factors. We have tried to summarize these principles, if you wish, to codify them and to put them on paper. We are by no means claiming that this is an exhaustive list. We fully accept that our draft does not cover everything and that following discussions some of its provisions could be formulated somewhat differently. We are convinced that the very discussion of this problem will help us all to achieve a better understanding of how to enhance the OSCE's ability to deal with crises, and that the achievement of an understanding regarding uniform principles will provide a more solid and reliable basis for efforts in this area.

In short, we are open to a committed and substantive discussion, which we propose should begin in two weeks' time in Working Group B.

I would ask you, Madam Chairperson, to include the Russian draft in the agenda of the meeting in question.



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

FSC.JOUR/606
20 January 2010
Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

600th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 606, Agenda item 3(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM

Thank you Madam Chairperson,

On the 22 December 2009, Belgium handed over the ratification instrument of the Convention on Cluster Munitions to the United Nations in New York. This treaty was signed by one hundred countries in Oslo one year ago. The ratification by Belgium brings the entry into force of this treaty closer. Belgium is the 26th State Party and 30 ratifications are needed.

Belgium does not spare any efforts to obtain a worldwide ban. As stressed by the Belgian Minister of Foreign Affairs Steven Vanackere: “Our commitment to a ban on cluster munitions fits in with a broader action to promote international security on a human scale, with respect for the dignity of the individual. Military conflicts are not just questions of States or regimes that sovereignly decide which resources they use. We must also take on the responsibility of thinking of the civilian population in zones of conflict. These must be protected to a maximum extent, and this certainly applies to the most vulnerable segments of the population such as children. This is why we wish to extend the humanitarian legal basis and help to prevent the use of weapons that cause disproportionate suffering. Just as with anti-personnel mines there are types of cluster munitions which leave their destructive footprint behind in conflict zones long after the end of hostilities. As a result they also form a serious obstacle to the resumption of social and economic life.”

Belgium uses this opportunity to encourage the participating States that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Oslo Convention. Belgium attaches great importance to this disarmament treaty and calls for a large participation in the First Conference of the States Parties that will be held in Laos after the entry into force of the Convention.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

Madam Chairperson,

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.