

Chairmanship: Slovenia**882nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 2 May 2018

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Suspended: 1.10 p.m.

Resumed: 3.05 p.m.

Closed: 3.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Benedejčič

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: EXPORT CONTROLS AND
DEACTIVATION OF SALW

– *Presentation by Ambassador P. Griffiths, Head of Secretariat, Wassenaar Arrangement*

– *Presentation by Ms. J. Körömi, Chair of the Council Working Party on Non-Proliferation (CONOP), European External Action Service*

– *Presentation by Mr. J. Reyels, Deputy Head of Division, Conventional Arms Control and CSBM, Federal Foreign Service, Germany*

Chairperson, Ambassador P. Griffiths (FSC.DEL/71/18 OSCE+), Ms. J. Körömi, Mr. J. Reyels (FSC.DEL/72/18 OSCE+), France (FSC.DEL/70/18 OSCE+), Ukraine (FSC.DEL/74/18 OSCE+), United Kingdom, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Italy), Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Finland) (Annex), United States of America, Germany, Russian Federation, Armenia

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/75/18 OSCE+), Bulgaria-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 Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/73/18), Canada, United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Request for redistribution of the food-for-thought paper and proposal for a Vienna Document Plus draft decision on modification of the annual exchange of military information (FSC.DEL/68/13/Rev.1/Corr.2): Austria, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 9 May 2018, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



882nd Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 888, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE INFORMAL GROUP OF FRIENDS ON SMALL ARMS AND
LIGHT WEAPONS (FINLAND)**

I would like to inform you that at the Preparatory Committee that took place from 19 to 23 March 2018 in New York in preparation for the Third Review Conference on the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (UN PoA), the OSCE promoted its efforts in the field of SALW by organizing a side event entitled “Preventing the use of SALW for terrorism and transnational organized crime: The OSCE’s Best Practice Guide on Deactivation of SALW” and by delivering a statement on the OSCE’s efforts in implementing the UN PoA.

Side event on deactivation of SALW

The side event on deactivation of SALW was organized jointly by the OSCE’s Conflict Prevention Centre, Germany and France. It promoted the OSCE’s minimum standards for national procedures in the deactivation of SALW adopted at the FSC on 21 February. The side event was held at the Permanent Mission of Germany to the UN and was well attended by UN Member States, international organizations and NGOs.

During the side event the keynote speakers highlighted ongoing global endeavours in combating illicit trade in SALW and the immense importance of the regional efforts; gave a briefing on ongoing OSCE efforts in the safe and secure storage of SALW and conventional ammunition (CA); and emphasized the OSCE’s shifting focus towards more dynamic aspects of the illicit flows of these materials by criminal and terrorist entities, countering which is becoming much more difficult and requires a multi-level process. Furthermore, the gender aspect was highlighted through concrete examples of awareness-raising, training courses held for women on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation, and efforts to integrate gender aspects into the OSCE’s assistance projects on SALW and SCA.

The experts of the side event provided insights on the OSCE’s minimum standards for the deactivation of SALW; illustrated how the weapons are deactivated; and highlighted the disproportionate effect that the misuse of SALW, including the misuse of deactivated SALW, has on women.

During the discussions, the panel was asked questions on a number of issues, notably the financial aspect of deactivating firearms; parallels with the EU regulations and

International Small Arms Control Standards; deactivation in relation to the destruction of surplus; and a common understanding of deactivation.

All in all, the side event raised awareness and underlined that the threat posed by the illicit conversion, transformation or reactivation of weapons is one that concerns everybody. Furthermore, the OSCE's work on combating the illicit trafficking and proliferation of SALW was promoted and discussed in detail, in particular its work on the deactivation of SALW.

A number of participants concluded that the deactivation of SALW should be made an integral part of capacity-building efforts by incorporating common rules and standards in national norms and legislations in the OSCE area and beyond.

OSCE statement on the OSCE's efforts in implementing the UN PoA on SALW

On 21 March 2018, the OSCE CPC delivered a statement at the Preparatory Committee¹ highlighting the importance of the regional efforts in implementing the PoA and promoting the Sustainable Development goals, in particular by reducing illicit arms flows.

The OSCE's achievements in the area of SALW controls were presented in four areas:

1. Normative aspects, exemplified by the Best Practice Guide on Deactivation of SALW;
2. Implementation of assistance projects on the safe and secure storage of SALW and conventional ammunition;
3. Promotion of women's participation in policy-making, planning and implementation processes through the training programme for women on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation in the OSCE area; and
4. Facilitation and promotion of synergies in reporting and information exchange on SALW and of the online reporting tool launched for simultaneous submissions to the OSCE and UNODA.

I would kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.

1 OSCE Statement delivered at the PrepCom on 21 March 2018 and distributed at: <http://statements.unmeetings.org/media2/18558670/osce-statementrev.pdf>