

Chairmanship: Norway

795th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 9 September 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 1 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador R. Kvile

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

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT OF THE NORWEGIAN FSC CHAIRMANSHIP BY H.E. MR. BÅRD GLAD PEDERSEN, STATE SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, NORWAY

Chairperson, State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway (FSC.DEL/162/15), Luxembourg-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/160/15), Germany, Switzerland, Poland, Serbia, Montenegro, Netherlands, Mongolia, Turkey, Belarus (FSC.DEL/166/15 OSCE+), United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Situation in and around Ukraine:* Ukraine (Annex 1) (FSC.DEL/164/15), Luxembourg-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/161/15), United States of America, Russian Federation, Canada, United Kingdom

- (b) *Recent large-scale military exercises in the Russian Federation, Azerbaijan and Armenia*: United States of America, Armenia, Russian Federation
- (c) *Announcement of military exercises in Armenia*: Armenia (Annex 2)
- (d) *Military exercise in Azerbaijan held from 6 to 13 September 2015*: Armenia (FSC.DEL/167/15), Azerbaijan (Annex 3)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Request from the Ministry of Infrastructure of Ukraine for technical assistance in clearing territories in Ukraine of explosive remnants of war (FSC.DEL/159/15 Restr.)*: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America), Chairperson, Ukraine
- (b) *Regional conference on the outreach of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security in the southern Mediterranean region, held in Tunisia on 2 and 3 September 2015*: Switzerland, Serbia (Annex 4), FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Czech Republic)
- (c) *Matters of protocol*: Italy, United States of America, Luxembourg-European Union, Romania, Portugal, Latvia, Sweden, Belarus, Chairperson
- (d) *International Conference on Countering Radicalization and Violent Extremism Leading to Terrorism: The Challenge of Terrorists Acting Alone or in Small Cells, to be held in Tel Aviv, Israel, from 9 to 11 November 2015*: Israel (Partner for Co-operation)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 16 September 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/801
9 September 2015
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

795th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 801, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr. 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 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 UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

The Russian Federation is now in breach of such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as sovereign equality and respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, and fulfilment in good faith of obligations in international law.

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the 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, Mr. Chairperson.



795th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 801, Agenda item 2(c)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA

At the outset, before going into the topic of my intervention, I would like to welcome warmly the delegation of Norway to the Chairmanship of the FSC, wishing you every success for the period of your Chairmanship and pledging the support of the Armenian delegation. Meantime, we would also like to take this opportunity to thank Montenegro for their able Chairmanship and warmly welcome the Netherlands as the new member of the FSC Troika.

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to present information regarding two military exercises to be held in Armenia.

Firstly, in the spirit of increased transparency and in line with FSC Decision No. 9/12, Armenia would like to inform the Forum about the military exercise “Shant”, which is being held in Armenia from 3 to 12 September 2015 as a military phase and in the framework of Strategic Command Post Exercise “Shant 2015”.

The military exercise was voluntarily notified by Armenia in July as an exercise below the threshold with the notification number CBM/AM/15/0008/F30/0.

The main objective of the exercise is the improvement of defensive and counter-offensive skills of staff and troops.

The training tasks of the exercise are being carried out at the Baghramyan training facility of the Ministry of Defence of Armenia.

The total number of military personnel involved in the exercise is 7,500, which includes one corps, six regiments, seven battalions and five companies.

The military attachés accredited in Yerevan have been briefed about the exercise.

In answer to the question asked by the delegation of the United States in its statement regarding the equipment being used during the exercise, I can offer the following information: BMP-1, BMP-2, BM-21, D-30, D-20, T-72, as well as other military equipment from the 521st Tank Battalion.

Now, once again in the spirit of enhanced transparency and in line with FSC Decision No. 9/12, Armenia would like to give information about the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) exercise that will be held from 30 September to 4 October 2015.

The military exercise was voluntarily notified by Armenia in August this year as an exercise below the threshold with the notification number CBM/AM/15/0009/F30/0.

The objective of the exercise will be the improvement of operational and tactical skills of troops of participating States.

The training tasks of the exercise will be carried out at the Baghramyan training facility of the Ministry of Defence of Armenia.

The total number of military personnel to be involved in the exercise is 514 troops, which will include 214 from Armenia, 50 from Belarus, 60 from Kazakhstan, 30 from Kyrgyzstan, 125 from Russian Federation and 35 from Tajikistan.

A total of 1 battalion, 3 companies and 11 platoons will take part in the exercise.

Representatives of the Diplomatic Corps as well as defence attachés accredited in Yerevan have been invited to observe the exercise.

Mr. Chairperson,

In conclusion, I would kindly ask you to append this statement to the journal of this meeting.

Thank you.



795th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 801, Agenda item 2(d)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Chairperson,

Since this is the first time that I have taken the floor in this session, I would like to join previous speakers in warmly welcoming Norway to the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation.

Originally, our aim was to inform the Forum for Security Co-operation about the ongoing Command Post War Games of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan. Since the delegations of the USA and Armenia have rushed to raise this issue in their respective statements, this particular statement of the delegation of the Republic of Azerbaijan may also be seen as an exercise of our right of reply to the statements just delivered by these delegations.

Mr. Chairperson,

On 6 September 2015, all components of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan started Command Post War Games upon an unexpected alert order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. The event will end on 13 September 2015. According to a press release issued by the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the games will feature evaluations of the units' combat readiness and of their capabilities in re-grouping, defensive operations and counter-attack.

The Command Post War Games involve all formations and units of the Armed Forces, including the air defence and naval forces, and internal and border troops (approximately 65,000 personnel, 700 pieces of armoured equipment including tanks, armoured combat vehicles and armoured personnel carrier look-alikes, 500 rocket and artillery systems, 40 different aircraft, 50 different helicopters and 20 ships and boats). In addition, more than 6,000 personnel within the reservist mobilization process were also called upon to refresh their military training at the Games and assess their readiness in case of mobilization.

It should be particularly noted that by definition Command Post War Games differ from military exercises in that they mainly consist of simulations and executions of military tasks on maps. Accordingly, we strongly urge the distinguished delegations of the USA and

Armenia to duly observe this distinction with regard to the recent military activity of the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan under consideration.

Given that these Games were initiated by unexpected alert order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces and not pre-planned, it was not possible to give due notification of them under Chapter V, paragraph 40.1.1 of the Vienna Document 2011.

Nevertheless, we would like to underline that on 7 September 2015, the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Azerbaijan held a briefing for the military attachés accredited in Azerbaijan and informed them about the ongoing Command Post War Games in a spirit of transparency.

Having said this, we reserve our right to come back to the issue in one of the forthcoming meetings of the Forum for Security Co-operation.

I ask that this statement be duly registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/801
9 September 2015
Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

795th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 801, Agenda item 3(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SERBIA

Mr. Chairperson,
Distinguished colleagues,

The delegation of the Republic of Serbia once again warmly welcomes Norway to the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) in the last trimester of 2015.

We would like to use this opportunity to remind the Forum of the Joint Serbian-Swiss OSCE Code of Conduct Workshop being held from 6 to 9 October 2015 in Belgrade. The invitation for this event was distributed under reference CIO.GAL/102/15 dated 7 July 2015 and the draft agenda and logistical information under reference CIO.GAL/119/15 dated 24 July 2015. These documents were re-distributed yesterday under reference CIO.INF/69/15.

The Workshop is an element in the Serbian-Swiss contribution to the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security within the OSCE and its dissemination to its Mediterranean and Asian Partners for Co-operation.

The Workshop is based on the Joint Workplan of the consecutive Swiss and Serbian OSCE Chairmanships and is designed to raise awareness among military personnel and staff officers, diplomats and civil society representatives of the politico-military and operational provisions of the OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

We would like to underline that Serbia and Switzerland will cover expenses in respect of accommodation, official meals and all transfers during the Workshop. The travel arrangements for one participant per participating State or OSCE Mediterranean or Asian Partner for Co-operation will be covered upon request.

Also, we would like to inform the Forum that the deadline for registration of participants has been extended until 18 September 2015.

In line with the above information we would like to encourage participating States and OSCE Partners for Co-operation to inform their capitals about this activity and register their respective representatives without delay.

We thank you for your attention and kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.