ENGLISH only

STATEMENT BY THE CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE by Mr. Shawn DeCaluwe, Chief, FSC Support Unit

Check against delivery

on the conclusion of the online course of **2022 OSCE-UNODA**Scholarship for Peace and Security:

Training programme on "Conflict Prevention through Arms Control, Disarmament and Nonproliferation in the OSCE Area"

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like to inform the participating States that the eight-week online training programme on "Conflict Prevention and Resolution through Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the OSCE Area", known as the *OSCE-UNODA Scholarship for Peace and Security*, was concluded on 24 July 2022.

Out of 152 participants enrolled to the course, some 123 [88% female] from 51 OSCE participating States and eight Partners for Co-operation graduated it successfully.

From the feedback received, we conclude that the programme was successful and valuable. It has contributed a lot to participants` knowledge on arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. Moreover, most of participants got inspired in stepping up for peace and security by pursuing further professional, personal and academic development in this field. Furthermore, the training programme has provided young professionals many opportunities to build their networks and increase their range of career opportunities.

As we conduct the training programme for the fifth consecutive year, it continues to contribute to increasing women's equal opportunities in policy-making, planning and implementation processes in arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. It also increases the representation of women and youth in the security sector.

The next component of this year's programme is the in-person course for female graduates, envisaged to take place from 7-11 November 2022 in Vienna.

Let me take this opportunity to thank the governments of Andorra, Finland, France, Germany, Ireland, Spain and the United States of America for their support for this year's training programme.

Thank you.