



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine  
at the 762-nd FSC Plenary Meeting  
(10 September 2014 at 10:00, Hofburg)**

**Mr. Chairman,**

Ukraine warmly welcomes the Principality of Monaco as the new Chair of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation. We are grateful to H.E. Jose Badia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, for his opening statement outlining the tasks, priorities and planned activities of the FSC Chairmanship for the third trimester of 2014.

We also warmly welcome and wish every success to Mongolia as a new member of the FSC Troika and thank Malta - the outgoing Troika member - for dedication and constructive cooperation with our delegation in the first trimester of this year.

We appreciate the excellent work carried out during the second trimester by the Republic of Moldova as the FSC Chair which provided for substance, inclusiveness and openness in the work of this decision-making body.

In the course of the Moldovan Chairmanship the FSC was actively engaged in reviewing military aspects of the crisis in and around Ukraine. Our deliberations and evidence presented in this Forum have reaffirmed that the crisis stems from the Russian Federation's illegal occupation and annexation of the integral part of Ukraine's territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, from Russia's wide-ranging military-technical, financial, logistical and informational support to unfolding terrorist activities in Eastern Ukraine, from Russian militarily significant unusual military activities in areas adjacent to the Ukrainian-Russian border.

The illegal actions by the Russian Federation violated imperative norms of international law, the UN Charter, the Helsinki Final Act and numerous OSCE commitments, bilateral and multilateral agreements, which guarantee Ukraine's territorial integrity, inviolability of borders and non-intervention in its internal affairs.

**Mr. Chairman,**

We have taken note and welcome Indicative Schedule for Plenary meetings under the Chairmanship of Monaco in the third session of 2014 as reflected in the document FSC.INF/26/14.

The FSC Security dialogue planned for 15 October 2014 on the Vienna Document entitled "Effectiveness of the Vienna Document CSBM Regime" is of particular interest to the Ukrainian delegation. The dialogue gains special significance for the OSCE community against the backdrop of recent military activities by one participating State, which undermined the foundation of confidence and security-building regime in the OSCE area. We categorically reject Russia's groundless claims contained in one of its Vienna Document notifications (CBM/RU/14/0102/F41/O), in particular on its unilateral decision to extend its zone of application of CSBMs to the Ukrainian region of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol.

In terms of the planned activities we also attach importance to the dialogues related to various aspects of SALW non-proliferation. We hope that the OSCE Implementation Assessment Meeting on SALW and SCA planned for 23-24<sup>th</sup> of September and the Security Dialogue on new 3D-printers SALW-producing technology will contribute to meaningful progress in our deliberations as we approach the Ministerial Council in Basel.

We also deem highly important the proposed Security Dialogues topics relating to various aspects of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, Arms Trade Treaty and United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540.

Let me assure you, Mr. Chairman, that Ukraine is ready to cooperate actively and constructively with the FSC Chairmanship, FSC Troika and Coordinators, delegations of the participating States with the view to achieving our common objectives.

**Mr. Chairman,**

As we meet, Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity continue to be violated by the Russian Federation which has serious implications for Ukraine, stability and security of the entire Euro-Atlantic area and warrants our continued focused attention to facilitating resolution of the crisis in and around Ukraine through employing the FSC toolbox.

We regret that the consistent efforts of the OSCE and international community have not led to a shift in aggressive policies of the Russian Federation as it resorted to heavy shelling of Ukrainians from the Russian territory, upgrading supply of Russian military equipment and weapons to terrorist groups in Ukraine's east, increasing the inflow of Russian mercenaries, who are openly recruited in Russia, and of subversive and reconnaissance groups into the territory of Ukraine, thus fuelling increased tensions and loss of life.

In the middle of August Russia started undertaking masked military incursion into the eastern part of Ukraine. Against the night of 15 August several pieces of Russian military equipment, including armored personnel carriers and heavy trucks entered Ukrainian territory near the border control point "Izvarino" (Luhansk oblast) heading for Lugansk via Molodogvardiisk. Thus the means of Russian support of terrorist in the eastern part of Ukraine switched into a new qualitative level. As a consequence of infiltration of the regular Russian troops and gradual build-up of Russian Forces undertaken from 23-24 till 26 of August, a combined grouping of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation and militants surrounded several units of the Armed Forces of Ukraine in the vicinity of Ilovaisk, Donetsk oblast.

In the last days of August, the situation has dramatically aggravated as the Russian Federation has moved from covert to open military incursion into the territory of Ukraine, which we view as an act of military aggression. On 27 August 2014 regular units of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation seized the Ukrainian city of Novoazovsk and a number of villages in Ukraine. Numerous facts of intolerance towards Ukrainians, their persecution and arrests of the activists by the militants and Russian Special Forces significantly complicate humanitarian situation in the area.

Let me reiterate that no consideration of whatever nature, whether political, economic, military or otherwise, may serve as a justification of aggression under international law. As an act of aggression has been committed against Ukraine, Ukraine reserves its right to exercise inherent right of self-defense every UN Member State is empowered with by virtue of Article 51 of the UN Charter.

**Mr. Chairman,**

Peaceful politico-diplomatic settlement of the situation in Donbas has been and remains a top priority for Ukraine. In this connection let me recall the Peace Plan of the President of Ukraine, good faith implementation by Ukraine of provisions of the Geneva and Berlin agreements establishing framework for de-escalation and peaceful solutions.

We welcome that the meeting of the Trilateral contact group in Minsk on 5 September 2014 resulted in signing by all participants of a protocol based on the Peace plan of the President of Ukraine and aiming to settle the crisis in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts. Since introduction of the bilateral cease-fire at 18.00 on Friday, 5 September, Ukraine has fully abided by provisions of the signed document.

Yet today, we have to note with concern the incidents of violation of the cease-fire by illegal armed groups and Russian military units.

In particular, from 6 to 9 September the following violations were registered:

- a convoy with weapons of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation intervened onto the territory of Ukraine at the border Check Point Izvarine, Lugansk oblast;
- two columns of military equipment of the Russian Armed Forces, including 8 MLRSs, armoured personnel carrier, two fuel trucks, five lorries with military personnel and ten loaded lorries intervened onto the Ukrainian territory near the village of Dibrivka of the Donetsk oblast;
- concentration of heavy weapon and military servicemen of the Russian Armed Forces was in progress nearby over 20 settlements in Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts, in particular near Shyrokyne, Krasnoarmiyske and Novoazovsk.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine has formally notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation of these continuous violations which flagrantly contravene the UN Charter, norms and principles of international law.

-the territory of the Donetsk airport was shelled twice by MLRS "GRAD" and twice by mortars. The city of Mariupol was shelled leaving one civilian dead and three wounded. An attack was undertaken on the block post near Rodnikove, Donetsk oblast;

-numerous Ukrainian military positions in Luhansk and Donetsk oblasts were shelled by mortars.

According to the National Security and Defense Council of Ukraine, after the ceasefire was declared 5 military servicemen were killed and 33 wounded in the area of ceasefire.

**Mr. Chairman,**

In conclusion I would like to stress that it is of critical importance for peace and security that the Russian Federation returns to the tenets of international law and fully respects the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine. This would be served, in particular, by Russia's full commitment to and implementation in good faith of the Minsk protocol of the Trilateral contact group.

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman.**