



**Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the 777-th FSC Plenary Meeting
on Non-Proliferation issues
(28 January 2015 at 10.00, Hofburg)**

Mr. Chairman,

I would like to recall that during 2013 Ukraine was very active in updating the common position of the OSCE participating States in the area of non-proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery.

The updated OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation, adopted at the Ministerial level in Kyiv, demonstrated our intention not only to comply with, but also to strengthen the existing non-proliferation regime.

Ukraine made unprecedented step and voluntarily renounced its inherited nuclear arsenal – the world's third largest at the time. In 1994 Ukraine joined the NPT as a non-nuclear-weapon state, while receiving at the same time guarantees of its security, political independence and territorial integrity within existing borders under Budapest Memorandum of 1994, with Russia, the US and the UK signing the document as states-guarantors.

The historical decision of Ukraine to abandon nuclear weapon capabilities resulted in significant enhancement of security for all.

From February 2014 Ukraine has faced the aggression of the Russian Federation, occupation and annexation of the part of its territory – the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which was followed by destabilization of the situation in the south and in east of Ukraine, supported by Moscow. Such actions of the Russian Federation are a grave violation of the imperative norms of international law, the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and a number of bilateral and multilateral agreements, which ensured the territorial integrity of Ukraine, inviolability of its borders and non-interference in the domestic affairs.

As these violations have been committed by the state-guarantor of the territorial integrity and political independence of Ukraine under the Budapest Memorandum, these unacceptable actions have broader international repercussions in terms of undermining global disarmament and, especially, non-proliferation.

Ukraine deems as highly pertinent to pursue all possible measures to stimulate Russia to restore its respect to international law and undertaken commitments, which would lead to restoration of credibility of security assurances guarantees to countries that renounce nuclear weapons.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.