

Chairmanship: Romania

844th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 8 February 2017

Opened: 10.05 a.m.
Suspended: 1.05 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 4.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador C. Istrate
Mr. D. Șerban

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: “NON-PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION AND THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNSCR 1540”

- *Ambassador C. Feruță, Chief Coordinator, Director General’s Office for Coordination, IAEA*
- *Mr. I. Morro, Deputy Director General for Non Proliferation and Disarmament Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Spain*
- *Ambassador J. Bylica, Principal Adviser and Special Envoy for Non-proliferation and Disarmament, European External Action Service (EEAS)*

Chairperson, Mr. C. Feruță, Mr. I. Morro (FSC.DEL/22/17 OSCE+), Mr. J. Bylica, Poland (Annex 1), United States of America, Ukraine (FSC.DEL/23/17), Belarus, Canada, Turkey, Armenia, Georgia (FSC.DEL/26/17 OSCE+), Croatia, Serbia, Slovenia, FSC Chairperson’s Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues (Belarus), Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE
 GLOBAL EXCHANGE OF MILITARY INFORMATION
 FOR 2017

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 1/17 (FSC.DEC/1/17) on the change of date for the Global Exchange of Military Information for 2017, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 3: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/24/17), Malta-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 Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/25/17), United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex 2)

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Proposed dates for the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference: Chef de file of the FSC for the 2017 Annual Security Review Conference (France)*
- (b) *27th Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting, to be held on 28 February and 1 March 2017: Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 15 February 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Ratsaal



844th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 850, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF POLAND

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to the statement delivered by Ambassador Jacek Bylica of the EU, I would like to make some supplementary remarks and comments in my national capacity.

Before turning to the real matter in hand, allow me to pay tribute to you, Mr. Chairperson, for your dedication in the field of non-proliferation, in particular as Chairperson of the Preparatory Commission of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO) and also for your role in the most recent Non-Proliferation Treaty review process.

The non-proliferation dimension of the OSCE is in good hands indeed.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Poland is a committed advocate of the full implementation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Since 2004, Poland has submitted five national reports on its implementation. Recently, we actively participated in a comprehensive review of the status of implementation. Consequently, we also co-sponsored UNSCR 2325 adopted on 15 December 2016, which in our view provides a thorough assessment of the current state of the UNSCR 1540 regime and gives us hope that its implementation will be boosted in the future.

We particularly welcome the provisions of the resolution related to the Committee's work in delivering more effective assistance to States, in enhancing co-operation between the 1540 Committee and other UN bodies and international institutions, and in drawing on expertise from industry and the scientific and academic communities. An inclusive approach of this kind will surely contribute to promoting a more comprehensively secure environment.

The threat of the proliferation and use by non-State actors of weapons of mass destruction continues to be grave one, and urgent action is required in this regard. In particular, as stated by the report of the comprehensive review, significant efforts remain to be made to address existing gaps in some States' national implementation in ensuring the safe and secure production, use, storage and transport of materials related to chemical and biological weapons.

Recent reports by the Joint Investigative Mechanism of the United Nations and the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons have confirmed that toxic chemicals have been used as weapons in Syria by ISIL, and it has repeatedly been alleged that terrorists are still trying to use them.

In this context we also recognize the role of the OSCE in the non-proliferation field in implementing the project for strengthening chemicals security in Ukraine, which is being carried out together with the European Union. Certain Polish non-governmental entities, in particular the International Chemical Security Center, are deeply involved in its implementation. We pay tribute to the Ambassador Vaidotas Verba – OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine – for his dedication to this project. He can count on our support in this regard.

Furthermore, our societies are faced with deadly threats from biological agents that are wide-ranging in their scope and do not require advanced technology to be used for malicious purposes by non-State actors. The recent Eighth Review Conference of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), which took place in Geneva, demonstrated the need for States to put much more effort into addressing the challenge of biological weapons.

Mr. Chairperson,

UNSCR 2325 underlines that more attention should be paid to enforcing measures against the proliferation of WMD and related materials, measures related to the financing of proliferation, and measures to strengthen national export and transshipment controls.

For this reason, Poland has completed a comprehensive review of its national procedures for the interdiction of weapons of mass destruction and its measures relating to delivery and related materials. As a result, a document entitled “National Interdiction Mechanism” has been agreed upon and adopted by the Polish Government. This document constitutes a mechanism for the implementation of our international obligations on non-proliferation, including UN and EU sanctions. It contains a description of actions to be taken when there is a need for the interdiction of a suspicious transport of WMD and related materials and covers existing procedures and obligations related to possible scenarios of illegal transfers of WMD-related materials to terrorist organizations and other non-State actors. As a result, in such cases all national authorities involved will be ready to react promptly and accurately, also engaging in co-operation with partners from abroad.

The origin of the above-mentioned act can be found in the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), which was launched in 2003 in Cracow. Although it remains and will remain beyond the UN security framework, it is still considered by Poland to be an important and effective tool in preventing and countering the proliferation of WMD.

As a follow-up to the activities already mentioned, Poland is now considering its accession to the Additional Protocol of 2005 to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, which penalizes the transfer of WMD and related materials.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairperson, we of course realize that the OSCE and the FSC do have quite a substantial agenda on a number of outstanding issues. Non-proliferation, however, continues to be an unchained part of global and regional security. Once again let me thank the Romanian FSC Chairmanship for putting this topic on the Security Dialogue agenda.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/850
8 February 2017
Annex 2

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

844th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 850, Agenda item 3

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.DEC/1/17
8 February 2017

Original: ENGLISH

844th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 850, Agenda item 2

**DECISION No. 1/17
CHANGE OF DATE FOR THE GLOBAL EXCHANGE OF MILITARY
INFORMATION FOR 2017**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Recalling paragraph 1 of the Document on Global Exchange of Military Information (DOC.FSC/5/96), according to which participating States shall provide information not later than 30 April of each year,

Noting that the OSCE spring recess for the calendar year 2017 occurs from 10 to 21 April and that several participating States have given notification that delegation staff will be absent until 1 May 2017,

Decides:

That information pursuant to the Global Exchange of Military Information for 2017 shall be provided not later than 11 May 2017, on an exceptional basis for this year only.