

**Chairmanship: Ireland**

**631st PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 15 December 2010

Opened: 11.35 a.m.

Closed: 12.35 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. O'Leary

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Financial contribution to the melange project in Ukraine:* Sweden, Denmark, Ukraine

(b) *Eighth annual consultations on the implementation of the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea, held on 9 December 2010:* Romania (Annex 1)

(c) *Financial contribution to the demilitarization project in Georgia:* Ireland, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary), Chairperson

Agenda item 2: CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FSC, H.E. AMBASSADOR EOIN O' LEARY

Chairperson (Annex 2), Iceland, Russian Federation, Hungary, France, United States of America, United Kingdom, Belgium, Greece, Spain, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Italy, Armenia, Kazakhstan

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Matters of protocol:* Ukraine, Chairperson, Portugal

- (b) *Inspection under the Vienna Document of a specified area in Kazakhstan:*  
Canada (Annex 3)

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 19 January 2011, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



**631st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 637, Agenda item 1(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ROMANIA**

The participating States – Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine – held on 9 December 2010 the Eighth Annual Consultations Meeting on the implementation of the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea, under the Chairmanship of Romania. The meeting took place at the premises of the Permanent Mission of Romania to the International Organizations in Vienna.

The participating States discussed the implementation of the Document in 2010 and pointed out the positive implications of the Document as an important instrument for confidence- and security-building measures in the Black Sea region.

The participating States commended Bulgaria for the excellent organization and successful accomplishment of the Confidence Annual Naval Exercise (CANE) “GALATEA – 2010” and the visit to the Varna Naval Base in May 2010.

Romania presented the programme of the CANE “RELIANCE – 2011” to be held on 25 May 2011, the planned visit to Constanta military port on 24 May 2011 and the remaining calendar of activities for 2011.

The participating States decided to use the OSCE Communications Network as a means of transmitting messages related to the Document. They welcomed and expressed appreciation for the presentation made by the chairperson of the OSCE Communications Group at the meeting.

Pursuant to the terms of the Document, the Russian Federation will assume the Chairmanship in 2011.

The participating States reconfirmed their strong willingness to continue the implementation of the Document aimed at further enhancing mutual confidence and co-operation in the Black Sea region.

Mr. Chairperson, may I ask you to attach the text of this statement to the journal of the day.



**631st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 637, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON**

Ambassadors, dear colleagues, ladies and gentlemen

I would like to take this opportunity to make the closing remarks of the Irish Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation.

When our Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Micheal Martin TD, opened Ireland's Chairmanship of the FSC on 8 September 2010, he indicated that our chairmanship would devote considerable attention to the input of the FSC to the Summit meeting and the Review Conference which preceded it, and that we would press for progress across the range of FSC activities. In particular, he said that we would work to achieve the maximum progress possible on the updating and modernisation of the Vienna Document. It is not for us, the Chairmanship, to make a judgement as to how well these aims were met, but what we can say is that our Minister's sentiments have underpinned our work since assuming the Chairmanship of the FSC last September.

Normally, the primary aim of the FSC Chairmanship in the third trimester is to prepare the FSC's input for the Ministerial Council meeting. This year, as we all know, things were more than a little different.

After an interval of eleven years, our leaders met at an OSCE Summit meeting in Astana. Coming at the same time as the 35th anniversary of the Helsinki Final Act, the Summit meeting and the lead-up to it dominated the work of our Chairmanship.

**Vienna Document 1999**

The adoption of FSC Decision No. 1/10 during the Hungarian Chairmanship of the FSC unlocked the vault in which the Vienna Document had been "secured" since 1999 by giving us a means whereby this vital Document could be updated. At an early stage in our Chairmanship and driven by the context of the Summit meeting, we noted considerable enthusiasm from delegations to put forward proposals pertaining to the VD 99. In order that we could all assess our collective hopes and aspirations with regard to modernising the VD 99, the Chairmanship encouraged delegations, especially in the lead-up to the Review Conference, to put the broadest range of papers forward for consideration.

This generated a remarkable response, as those of you who on a number of occasions left this room in the late evening at the eventual close of Working Group A meetings will testify.

Despite the heavy workload in those weeks leading up to the Review Conference and for a number of weeks thereafter, we feel, as Chairmanship, that we collectively got a very keen sense of the participating States' ambitions and aspirations with regard to updating the Vienna document. Along the way, we succeeded in adopting five "Vienna Document Plus" decisions, and while the potentially more significant decisions remain to be tackled, I nevertheless think the overall work to date on the Vienna Document has been very useful and clearly informs our future work on this issue.

### **Other FSC work**

At the same time, the everyday work of the FSC had to be sustained.

In terms of the broader FSC programme for the first half of next year (2011), the Forum has adopted a decision on the agenda and modalities of the OSCE Workshop to Identify the Proper Role of the OSCE in Facilitation of UN Security Council resolution 1540 (2004). This Workshop will be held on 27 and 28 January 2011.

In addition, we have as a Forum adopted a decision on the agenda and modalities of the twenty-first Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (scheduled for 1 and 2 March 2011). However, consensus on the decision pertaining to the High-Level Seminar on Military Doctrine (scheduled for 24 and 25 May 2011) is still awaited. We will hopefully attain consensus on this decision early in the new year.

The FSC adopted, earlier in this year, under the preceding Chairmanship of Hungary, the Plan of Action for SALW. Before we left for Astana, the Forum adopted the first decision on the implementation of the Plan of Action for SALW, which pertains to information exchange on the control of brokering in SALW. Currently, we have proposals awaiting consensus at the draft decision stage on stockpiles of conventional ammunition and the Code of Conduct. As with the military doctrine issue, these items are well advanced and we look forward to their adoption early in 2011.

### **Summit meeting**

As I said last week, it is significant that the Astana Declaration acknowledges the value of the FSC and looks forward to the updating of the Vienna Document 1999.

This is specifically reflected in paragraph 8 of the Summit Declaration, and I quote: "We value the work of the Forum for Security Co-operation, and look forward to the updating of the Vienna Document 1999". Indeed, with the generality of paragraph 8, and other references in the document, such as in paragraph 5, with regard to the OSCE's "significant role in establishing effective confidence- and security-building measures" and the pledge to assist forthcoming Chairmanships to develop an action plan, the FSC has a clear mandate from our Heads of State to deepen and accelerate its work.

The FSC is already well advanced on work on an Action Plan, and considerable potential exists for the future development of this work in the two papers that dominated our discussions in the lead-up to Astana, namely:

- FSC input to the Astana Summit
- Proposal for a draft OSCE Programme for Further Actions in the Field of Arms Control and Confidence- and Security-Building Measures.

### **Thank you**

There are many to whom the Irish Chairmanship owes a considerable debt of gratitude, and without whose support our Chairmanship may not have gone so smoothly.

Firstly, I would like to mention the Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document 1999, Dr. Pierre von Arx. In endeavouring to analyse, assess and give direction as to what might be possible to achieve in terms of Vienna Document Plus decisions in the lead-up to Astana, the Chairmanship felt the need to appoint a co-ordinator of experience and standing to undertake this vital work. Pierre, we appreciate the many hours you committed to this work and thank you most sincerely for your support and the results you achieved.

My appreciation also goes to the Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, Colonel Anton Eischer. He too has worked tirelessly on his portfolio, especially on a Reference Guide on the OSCE Code of Conduct, and no doubt the draft decision on this issue will be adopted early next year.

Also deserving of my thanks is Lieutenant Colonel Laszlo Szatmari, who took over the portfolio on stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA) from Lieutenant Colonel Niels Petersen. Laszlo, thank you for continuing to drive forward the work on SCA in a range of projects, including the OSCE's largest ever project for the disposal of liquid rocket fuel, or *mélange*, in Ukraine.

It goes without saying that small arms and light weapons (SALW) is a key issue for us here in the FSC. In this regard, I wish to thank Colonel Anders Byren, our Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on SALW's normative work. Despite the heavy emphasis on the Vienna Document during our Chairmanship, Colonel Byren continued to keep a focus on the FSC action plan on SALW, an issue which will demand ongoing focus in the coming year.

Last, but not least, my thanks go to Colonel Steve Hartnell for his continuing work as our Co-ordinator for Projects on SALW. If I cite just one example, his efforts have contributed to the successful completion of the first phase of the project in Belarus, with the enhancement of security to five SALW stockpiles being confirmed through a donors' visit in September. Work at two transition sites continues to progress and the priority location for work in Phase 2 of the project has been agreed with the Belarus Ministry of Defence, the UNDP and donors. The priority now must be to secure funding for this continued work.

It is no secret either that Colonel Hartnell was one of the main architects behind the original UK proposal and the eventual decision on "information exchange with regard to

OSCE Principles on the Control of Brokering in SALW". This is a significant decision in itself and as a first step in implementing our action plan on SALW. Thank you Colonel Hartnell.

I would like also to extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to the Director of the CPC, the FSC Support Section, the Conference Services and, of course, to our interpreters, for their continued hard work and dedication to the work of the FSC.

I would like to warmly thank our Hungarian friends, who so ably guided the Forum through the second FSC trimester. We wish them well as they leave the Troika to take on further responsibilities as Presidency of the EU.

And a special word of thanks to Greece, who moved from CiO to FSC Chairmanship at the beginning of this year and included us in their plans for 2010.

I welcome Italy to the FSC Troika and look forward to working with you in the coming months of the new year while we remain a Troika member ourselves.

I would like to pay particular tribute to the Kazakh delegation for their excellent Chairmanship of the OSCE this year, and for the hard work and dedication in guiding the OSCE to and successfully through its first Summit meeting in over a decade.

And now the time approaches when we will soon pass the baton to our Icelandic friends. We wish you, Stefan, and your team the very best of luck in the Chairmanship during the opening months of 2011, and we ask all participating States, all colleagues gathered here this morning and those who will sit here in the coming months to support the Icelandic Chairmanship in continuing the work of the FSC. We, the Irish delegation, pledge our support to you in this regard.

Finally, I would like to convey our very best Christmas and New Year's wishes to all our dear colleagues and your families, and I look forward to continuing our good work in the FSC in 2011.

This statement will be attached to the journal of the day.



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

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15 December 2010  
Annex 3

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**631st Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 637, Agenda item 3(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CANADA**

During the week of 8 November 2010, Canada conducted a Vienna Document 1999 specified area inspection within the territory of Kazakhstan.

The inspection team, composed of Canadian and Danish personnel, was accompanied by the head of Canada's verification unit, and they were well received by Kazakh officials, who made every effort to meet their obligations and to fulfill all of the requirements of the inspection.

The inspection, conducted by helicopter and on the ground, covered an area of approximately 35,000 km<sup>2</sup>.

Canada wishes to congratulate Kazakhstan on an excellent inspection, which well exceeded the provisions of the Vienna Document 1999 in assuring compliance, transparency and openness, resulting in a successful inspection.