

**Chairmanship: Moldova****760th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 16 July 2014

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador A. Popov

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the Forum, expressed condolences to the Russian Federation with regard to the metro derailment in Moscow on 15 July 2014.

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

*Presentations on:*

- “*Conditions of Service and the Human Rights of Members of the Armed Forces*” by Ms. S. Bokulić, Head of the Human Rights Department at the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights
- “*The OSCE and Women, Peace and Security: The Way Forward*” by Ms. M. Beham, OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues and Ms. M. Bastick, Gender and Security Fellow, Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces:

Chairperson, Representative of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR.GAL/33/14 OSCE+), OSCE Senior Adviser on Gender Issues, Ms. M. Bastick (FSC.DEL/129/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Monaco and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/131/14),

Kazakhstan (also on behalf of Austria, Finland and Turkey), Denmark (Annex 1), Sweden (Annex 2), Ireland (Annex 3), FSC Co-ordinator on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Germany), Netherlands (Annex 4), United States of America, Russian Federation, Armenia, Estonia, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 (Turkey), Finland

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE DATE OF THE 2014 MEETING OF THE HEADS OF VERIFICATION CENTRES

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 4/14 (FSC.DEC/4/14) on the date of the 2014 Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF THE OSCE DOCUMENT ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND THE OSCE DOCUMENT ON STOCKPILES OF CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 5/14 (FSC.DEC/5/14) on the implementation assessment in respect of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Monaco (Annex 5), Austria, Chairperson

Agenda item 4: GENERAL STATEMENTS

*Situation in Ukraine:* Ukraine (FSC.DEL/133/14), Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/132/14), United States of America, Holy See, Russian Federation (Annex 6), Turkey, Netherlands, Canada

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Visit to an airbase and military facility in Finland, to be conducted from 4 to 8 May 2015:* Finland

(b) *Matters of protocol:* Greece, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 23 July 2014, at 11 a.m., in the Neuer Saal

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF DENMARK**

Thanks, Mr. Chairperson,

Denmark of course subscribes to the EU statement. Let me also thank the speakers for their presentations and in addition offer the following remarks on behalf of my country.

A strong programme of international engagement and the promotion of gender equality are two key policy areas for the Danish Government. Both have the aim of protecting the rights of the most vulnerable and contributing to the creation of peaceful, prosperous and just societies. The Danish Government believes that there can be no sustainable peace without the full and equal participation of women. Women are first and foremost a great resource for their communities and countries – and likewise a great resource in all efforts to achieve sustainable development and peace.

Denmark is a strong supporter of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women and peace and security. In 2005 Denmark was the first country to adopt a National Action Plan on the implementation of UNSCR 1325, and the updated National Action Plan, which I briefed the FSC on one month ago on 18 June, represents the third phase of our engagement.

Danish security policy is founded on Denmark's aspiration to play an active role in meeting global security challenges, with the United Nations as a key partner and with peace-building as the end goal. Similarly, the Danish programme of development co-operation combines promotion of human rights and justice with the fight against poverty. Protection of the most vulnerable – i.e., women and children – is at the centre of our humanitarian engagements.

We believe Denmark can provide a significant contribution to international peace and security, especially because of our long experience of combining military, humanitarian and civilian engagements. Denmark has adopted a whole-of-government approach to engagements in fragile and conflict-affected areas. The Danish focus on the women, peace and security agenda spans across the Danish Government and includes the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Justice.

The objectives and policy priorities of Denmark's National Action Plan for the implementation of UNSCR 1325 on women and peace and security are as pertinent and pressing as ever. And a lot remains to be done.

According to figures from UN Women, 70 per cent of peace agreements still contain no reference to women, peace and security. Fewer than 3 per cent of signatories to peace agreements are women, and women still represent less than 10 per cent of negotiators at peace tables. Out of hundreds of peace agreements since the end of the Cold War, only six ceasefires have mentioned sexual violence as a violation of the ceasefire. In conflict-affected countries, women made up 16.4 per cent of parliamentarians on average, compared to 21 per cent globally, and female voters were four times as likely as men to be targeted for intimidation in elections in fragile and transitional States.

Denmark's specific focus is therefore on results. The Danish plan contains a list of specific initiatives with indicators for each authority to implement during the coming five-year period. We hope there are parts of the Danish plan which can be used as an inspiration for other States.

Denmark looks forward to making its contribution to OSCE work on women, peace and security and thereby, we hope, to the creation of a more peaceful, just and equal world, for the benefit of all – women, men, boys and girls.

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

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWEDEN**

Mr. Chairperson,

I wasn't quite sure whether to take the floor on this agenda item or not, but these indeed very thought-provoking speakers make it somewhat irresistible to do so. Needless to say I of course also align myself with the European Union.

When listening, I find that I share the values expressed by the speakers. Let me start with a very personal remark. Being the father of one daughter and one son, I very much favour the idea that they should be entitled to grow up in a society where they have equal chances and possibilities. That is regardless of their respective sex, or for that matter, of whether it turns out that either one decides to live her or his life in a way that does not fully correspond with the norms of the majority. It is simply my personal belief that they should have the same opportunities in life, including the opportunity to decide for themselves whether they would like to join the armed forces.

Luckily enough, my country – Sweden – shares this belief and actively stands up for every individual's right to be honest and open and to exercise freedom of choice. Sweden has invested in this belief in many different ways, for example by establishing the Nordic Centre for Gender in Military Operations with its variety of courses and support options. The programme Integrating Gender Perspectives into Military Operations supports and strengthens the human rights and overall security situation for the whole population; men, women, girls and boys. Gender is one important piece in the puzzle of how to best set favourable conditions in nation-building and creating lasting peace.

I feel confident that the values of my country are shared by the vast majority of the countries represented around this table. Personally I don't find the thought very appealing that any country would be willing to simply throw away 50 per cent of its potential. What I mean by that is that I doubt that we can afford to create quasi-intellectual, artificial hindrances that stop us from using the potential resources of half of the population. Instead I would urge us all to see the person and not the sex, colour or religion – to see the individual for his or her true potential, especially within the armed forces, where the risks of war make no distinction between woman and man.

I say thank you to our guest speakers for having elaborated on this important issue.

I say thank you to those of my colleagues who have seconded their motion.

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF IRELAND**

Ireland fully supports the statement made by the European Union and would like to add a few words in a national capacity.

We thank the speakers for their useful contributions today. The issue of women, peace and security is one that is rightly moving to the top of the international agenda. We remain convinced that the OSCE can and should play a helpful and complementary role in this area.

In this regard, we welcome the joint statement made by Austria, Finland, Turkey and Kazakhstan and underline our support for their ongoing efforts to advance this important dossier. We also thank the FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325 for her endeavours in keeping this topic on our agenda.

Mr. Chairperson, I wish to take this opportunity to inform the FSC that Ireland's first National Action Plan on UNSCR 1325 expires at the end of this year. My authorities are now in the process of drafting our next National Action Plan.

An important part of this process is consultation with other interested parties, in particular civil society, to ensure that our National Action Plan is as robust and relevant as possible. With this in mind, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade has prepared, in conjunction with a civil society consultation group, a consultation paper, which is available on the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade ([www.dfa.ie](http://www.dfa.ie)). Copies of the consultation paper are also available on demand from my office.

Submissions to this consultation process are invited from interested parties, in particular civil society organizations and NGOs working with women and men directly affected by conflict, by 15 August 2014, and we look forward to receiving valuable inputs.

We will also draw the consultation process to the attention of the OSCE Secretariat, in particular the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on Gender Issues, the Gender Section and the FSC Support Section. We look forward very much to the results of the comparative study being undertaken by the Peace Research Institute Oslo on behalf of the Gender Section, which we believe will provide useful information and tools for improving implementation of these important resolutions in the OSCE area.

I thank you for your attention and kindly ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE NETHERLANDS**

Mr. Chairperson,

Fully subscribing to the statement of the European Union, we would like to add a few words in our national capacity. We also thank all speakers for bringing the topics of human rights in the armed forces and of women, peace and security onto the agenda of this forum. As you know, the Netherlands regards attention to these topics as highly relevant and we are firmly committed to reaching higher goals in both of these areas. In the field of human rights in the armed forces we consider there to be a broad range of higher goals, including the rights of LGBT persons. Last week our Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Frans Timmermans, made specific reference to this topic. We would like to use this opportunity to draw your attention to a report on this issue, which was sent to Parliament by the Minister of Defence only a few weeks ago. This report was produced by The Hague Centre for Strategic Studies and ordered by the Minister of Defence of the Netherlands, and is entitled “LGBT Military Personnel: A Strategic Vision for Inclusion”.

Armed forces are changing. As diversity becomes increasingly the norm, and as more and more military bodies recognize their LGBT service members, diversity is increasingly viewed as a strategic asset to be managed in order to deliver maximum benefits for the military. Likewise, the recognition of LGBT people in society has changed considerably in many parts of the world. From a human rights and equality perspective, many now see it as a moral duty to remove the challenges faced by LGBT people.

LGBT inclusion in the military has increased rapidly, with many countries lifting bans on LGBT service in recent decades. These changes have raised questions on the suitability of LGBT people to serve and the effects of their service on armed forces. For those who approach LGBT inclusion not only as a matter of human rights but also as one of military effectiveness, it is important to understand how countries and international organizations deal with LGBT participation in different ways, and what strategies they can develop for making the most of this form of diversity.

The report is an international comparative study on the degree of acceptance of LGBT persons within armed forces. The research measures and compares the degree of LGBT acceptance in the armed forces of more than one hundred countries. The LGBT Military Index rates countries on their level of inclusion of service members and ranks them to show that substantial differences exist. The wide divergences in policy underline the importance of

considering the international aspect of LGBT inclusion. This instrument can help countries to enhance their insights into possible changes of policy which can contribute to a higher degree of LGBT acceptance in armed forces.

The report concludes by recommending that policies and practices of inclusion that benefit military forces and those who serve in them be identified through the lens of inclusion. These policies and practices can be strategically created and implemented through mainstreaming, managing and measuring. Mainstreaming means assessing the impact of policy decisions on all those who could be affected by them; doing so for LGBT personnel implies systematic consideration of inclusion. By implementing inclusion with the help of managers, accountability is increased. Measuring progress allows for a cost-benefit assessment of policies and practices of inclusion, and gives the opportunity to make improvements where necessary.

The current report will be distributed today for your perusal through OSCE channels.

Mr. Chairperson, I thank you for your attention and ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 3

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MONACO**

Mr. Chairperson,

The Principality of Monaco welcomes the adoption of the decision on implementation assessment in respect of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition. Monaco supports this initiative and would like to thank all those who contributed to the adoption of this decision. It is true that SALW are a major subject within the first dimension of the OSCE, and, therefore, of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC).

The many Security Dialogues that have been held on SALW make the Forum a particularly appropriate setting for reflection and dialogue on this topic.

These OSCE Documents establish the Organization's role in the fight against the excessive accumulation of SALW, as well as the role that illicit trafficking in SALW can play in terrorist actions and the destabilization of participating States.

Likewise, the many field projects and the assistance that the OSCE provides to participating States in this area contribute to reinforcing security in the region we defined in Astana.

For all of these reasons, we attach a great deal of importance to the organization of a two-day event on the implementation of the Documents on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition.

As Chairmanship of the FSC, Monaco will take on the responsibility of organizing this event, which will be held on 23 and 24 September 2014 in the best possible conditions.

With this in mind, we shall now commit ourselves to finalizing the modalities and the agenda of this meeting.

I should not like to conclude this statement without associating my delegation with the thoughts you addressed to our Russian colleague, and which we, of course, share.

Mr. Chairperson,

I ask that this statement be attached to the journal of this meeting.

Thank you for your attention.

**760th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 4

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

Ukrainian security forces are using heavy weapons and combat aviation in the ongoing punitive operation in the south-east of the country, causing countless casualties and destruction.

In order to reduce the level of armed confrontation and facilitate a peaceful settlement of the crisis in south-eastern Ukraine, the leadership of the Russian Federation has taken a decision to temporarily cease the transfer to the Ukrainian authorities of military equipment and materials belonging to the Ukrainian Armed Forces from the territory of the Republic of Crimea.

We believe that this measure will help to prevent the use of transferred weapons in military action in south-eastern Ukraine.

I ask that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.

**760th Plenary Meeting  
FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 2****DECISION No. 4/14  
DATE OF THE 2014 MEETING OF THE HEADS OF  
VERIFICATION CENTRES**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming that the OSCE Vienna Document 2011 (VD 2011) remains a key instrument for confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), and noting that the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) provides an important forum for discussing the implementation of agreed measures under the provisions of the VD 2011,

Taking note of the discussions conducted and views expressed during the twenty-fourth AIAM,

Recalling that the aim of the Meeting of Heads of Verification Centres is to exchange experiences and information on technical aspects of the implementation of agreed measures under the provisions of the VD 2011,

Decides:

1. To call for a Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres to be held in Vienna on 16 December 2014;
2. To task the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) to prepare and chair the Meeting;
3. To task the CPC to report on the Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres at the opening session of the twenty-fifth AIAM.

**760th Plenary Meeting  
FSC Journal No. 766, Agenda item 3**

**DECISION No. 5/14**  
**IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT IN RESPECT OF THE**  
**OSCE DOCUMENT ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND**  
**THE OSCE DOCUMENT ON STOCKPILES OF**  
**CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Mindful of the important role of the OSCE in combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in all its aspects and of its endeavor to contribute to the reduction in, and prevention of, the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW,

Recognizing the continuing importance of OSCE measures aimed at addressing the security risks and the safety of stockpiles of SALW and SCA in surplus and/or awaiting destruction in some States in the OSCE area,

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening efforts aimed at ensuring the full implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1, 20 June 2012), the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (FSC.DOC/1/03/Rev.1, 23 March 2011), and related FSC decisions, including the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DEC/2/10, 26 May 2010), and

Recalling Section VI of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, in which the participating States agreed to review regularly, including as appropriate, through annual review meetings, the implementation of the norms, principles and measures in the Document and to keep its scope and content under regular review,

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13, which tasked the FSC to explore ways to review and, where appropriate, supplement the 2012 OSCE Document on SALW, the 2003 OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition and the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on SALW and ensure coherence and complementarity with the relevant United Nations framework, *inter alia*, taking account of the outcome documents of the Second Review Conference on the United Nations Programme of Action on SALW,

Noting the commitments contained in the outcome documents of the Second and Fifth United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects to enhance, as appropriate, synergies between the Programme of Action and relevant subregional and regional instruments, as well as to encourage relevant regional and international organizations to convene regional meetings in preparation for, and/or to follow up on the meetings on the Programme of Action,

Decides to:

Organize an implementation assessment meeting on 23 and 24 September 2014;

Task the OSCE Secretariat to support the organization of this meeting;

Invite the OSCE participating States to consider providing extrabudgetary contributions for the meeting.

FSC.DEC/5/14  
16 July 2014  
Annex

## **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

Opening session

Working session 1: Review of implementation of OSCE commitments on SALW and SCA\*

Working session 2: OSCE practical assistance projects on SALW and SCA

Closing session

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\* Discussions may extend, but are not limited, to:

- Clarification of questions arising from such implementation, such as management of the security of stockpiles of SALW and SCA, tracing or export control of SALW;
- Discussion of agreed measures, including assessment visits and project implementation;
- Implications of all information originating from the implementation of any agreed measures for the process of confidence and security-building in the framework of the OSCE.