

Chairmanship: Luxembourg

741st PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 18 December 2013

Opened: 11 a.m.

Closed: 12 noon

2. Chairperson: Ambassador H. Wurth

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *European Union activities in support of the Arms Trade Treaty in the framework of the EU's European Security Strategy*: Lithuania-European Union (with the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, 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 Moldova, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/203/13), Germany (Annex 1), United Kingdom
- (b) *Financial contribution to the SECUP project in Bosnia and Herzegovina*: Switzerland (Annex 2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Annex 3), FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America)
- (c) *Consultations on the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea, held on 13 December 2013*: Ukraine (also on behalf of Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey) (Annex 4)
- (d) *Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting, to be held on 4 and 5 March 2014*: Luxembourg (also on behalf of Malta)

- (e) *Adoption of a new Strategy for the Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons and Ammunition and Action Plan for the period 2013–2018, on 17 December 2013 (FSC.EMI/463/13):* Montenegro, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (United Kingdom)
- (f) *Contribution to the physical-security and stockpile-management activities related to the development and introduction of management of the life cycle of ammunition in Moldova:* Austria (Annex 5), Moldova (Annex 6)

Agenda item 2: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Connection of Turkmenistan to the OSCE Communications Network:* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (b) *Matters of protocol:* Belarus

Agenda item 3: CLOSING STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON
OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION,
H.E. AMBASSADOR HUBERT WURTH

Chairperson (Annex 7), Lithuania, Malta, Moldova, Armenia, FSC
Chairperson's Co-ordinator on Non-Proliferation Issues (Ukraine)

4. Next meeting:

Friday, 24 January 2014, at 11 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/747
18 December 2013
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: GERMAN

741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY

Mr. Chairperson,

Germany fully associates itself with the statement by the European Union.

Germany is not only supporting the implementation of the international Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) through the co-financing of the EU project mentioned in the European Union's statement, but also played a role, together with Australia, in the creation of the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) in 2012. From the beginning of 2014, it will finance projects in preparation for the signing and ratification of the ATT and implementation of the commitments resulting from it. In particular, this involves support for developing countries. The German Federal Foreign Office will pay 600,000 euros into this trust facility before the end of 2013.

This year, we have already supported several projects that are consistent with the goals of the trust facility, including a workshop for African countries as part of the preparation of the international Arms Trade Treaty in March and the financing of an ATT toolkit, which is being implemented by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs. We are now joining Australia, Denmark, the Netherlands, Switzerland and the United Kingdom, which make direct contributions to the facility, with this additional 600,000 euros.

What we particularly appreciate about UNSCAR is the steering mechanism, which gives donors the right to participate in priority setting and project selection.

Mr. Chairperson, I should like to ask you to have this statement attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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

FSC.JOUR/747
18 December 2013
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND

Dear Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Dear colleagues,

Switzerland looks upon the OSCE SALW and SCA assistance projects as important ways to reduce risks originating from degraded or inappropriately stored ammunition, and to prevent unplanned explosions. These projects are suitable means of helping to prevent such explosions and enhance security and stability in the OSCE region and hence of facilitating the establishment of the necessary framework for economic development and prosperity. I therefore have the great privilege to announce today an additional pledge by Switzerland to the assistance project in Bosnia and Herzegovina:

Switzerland pledges 60,000 Swiss francs (CHF) to the SECUP Project in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Project: 2200268). Through this pledge, Switzerland intends to support the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in performing the 100%-inventory initiated earlier this year. The OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina has proved very flexible and proficient in supporting this essential process.

In recent years, many of the OSCE participating States have suffered from the global economic crisis, putting pressure on financial contributions to international organizations and initiatives. In this regard, such pledges are regularly called into question and are under intense scrutiny. Professionalism and effectiveness are therefore of the utmost importance in the execution of projects. Hence, Switzerland will continue to support the OSCE SALW and SCA assistance projects with in-kind contributions and expert missions, as in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Furthermore, we are looking forward to next year's discussions in the FSC of issues related to SALW and SCA projects, with the aim of facilitating procedures for deploying such expert missions and thus strengthening the SALW and SCA assistance mechanism, as we agreed in Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13 on small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition, adopted in Kiev.

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.JOUR/747
18 December 2013
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(b)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA**

Mr. Chairperson,
Your Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

The delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina would like to take this opportunity to thank Switzerland for the additional pledge for the Project for the Security Upgrade of Ammunition and Weapons Storage Sites in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

This ongoing project has the objective of upgrading the security infrastructure at the Bosnia and Herzegovina ammunition and weapons storage sites, and will be implemented jointly by the Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Defence, the OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and EUFOR.

Dear colleagues,

We would like to assure you that Bosnia and Herzegovina is a credible partner and a fully fledged OSCE participating State, and we are fully committed to determining optimum models for our own security as well as to complying with the international commitments undertaken vis-à-vis the OSCE and its participating States.

Mr. Chairperson,

In addition to Switzerland's second donation for this project and the donations of other participating States, we also wish to thank the Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation, the CPC and the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition for helping to make this project feasible.

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

Thank you.



741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(c)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF BULGARIA, GEORGIA, ROMANIA,
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION AND TURKEY)**

Mr. Chairperson,

I took the floor also on behalf of Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation and Turkey.

The participating States to the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea – Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, the Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine – held the Eleventh Annual Consultations on the Review of Implementation of the Document on 13 December 2013. The meeting took place in Vienna at the Hofburg premises under the Chairmanship of Ukraine.

The participating States discussed the implementation of the Document in 2013 and stressed the positive implications of the Document as an important tool to enhance confidence- and security-building and to strengthen regional security and stability in the Black Sea. The delegations also emphasized the significance of further development of the interaction and co-ordination among the navies of the participating States for the purposes of confidence- and security-building in the Black Sea.

The participating States that took part in the exercise expressed their gratitude to Turkey for the excellent organization and successful accomplishment of the Confidence Annual Naval Exercise (CANE) “Confidence-2013” from 18 to 21 September 2013 and the visit to the Karadeniz Ereğlisi Naval Base of Turkey.

The delegation of Ukraine presented the programme of the CANE “Reliance-2014”, to be held on 15 and 16 October 2014, and the planned visit to the Sebastopol Naval Base on 14 October 2014. The delegations took note of this information. The calendar of events for 2014 was also introduced.

The delegations positively evaluated the results of utilization of the OSCE Communications Network for the purposes of the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea as a secure and reliable means of receiving and transmitting notifications related to the Document through their national end-user stations. They expressed their appreciation that the integration process of

notifications format to the INA system was completed promptly with the direct assistance of the OSCE Network Management Team. The delegations also concluded that the relevant decision of the Eighth Annual Consultations was successfully implemented.

The delegations expressed satisfaction that the terms of reference (TOR) for a participating State to act as the chair for the Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures in the Naval Field in the Black Sea had been adopted in 2013 through the “silence” procedure.

Pursuant to the terms of the Document, Bulgaria will assume the next Chairmanship in 2014.

The participating States re-confirmed their strong willingness to continue the implementation of the Document aimed at further strengthening security and confidence in the Black Sea.

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



741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(f)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA

Mr. Chairperson,

Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13 on small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA) invites participating States to provide extrabudgetary contributions to support FSC assistance projects on SALW and SCA, or to contribute resources and technical expertise to the OSCE's comprehensive programme on SALW and SCA. The same Ministerial Council decision also tasks the FSC with discussing issues related to the engagement of personnel of participating States involved in projects, such as the status of these experts, in order to facilitate procedures for providing assistance.

In this regard, Austria, Germany, Canada, Sweden and Switzerland will contribute to the physical-security and stockpile-management activities related to the development and introduction of the management of the life cycle of ammunition in Moldova. Over the next years, we will endeavour to support the Moldovan authorities in developing their own ammunition-related training and skills, in accordance with international standards and best practices. Moldovan national army specialists will be trained in safe and secure handling, storage and transportation of conventional ammunition, in accordance with the newly approved national regulations of the Ministry of Defence of Moldova.

In order to guarantee the sustainability of the project, the training programme will be integrated into that of the Moldovan armed forces training institution and systematically delivered as part of the national training curriculum.

By providing this assistance, we aim to contribute to stability in Moldova and to raise the level of confidence and trust in the country by ensuring the safe and secure storage of conventional ammunition.

Mr. Chairperson,

This is vital work under the co-ordination of the CPC FSC Support Section. The co-sponsoring countries will take the project a long way forward over the next years. In collaborating with the OSCE Mission to Moldova and the authorities of Moldova, we are looking forward to a successful start of the project next year, leading to tangible improvements in security and stability.

Finally, this project could serve as a model case, not only in terms of effective project support with the expertise of participating States, but also in the context of solving the status question raised in Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13.

Mr. Chairperson, I request you to attach this statement to the journal of today's meeting.



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

FSC.JOUR/747
18 December 2013
Annex 6

Original: ENGLISH

741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 1(f)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MOLDOVA

Mr. Chairperson,

On behalf of the Moldovan Government, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to Austria, Canada, Germany, Sweden and Switzerland for their valuable contribution to and support of the conventional ammunition stockpile management project in the Republic of Moldova that is scheduled to start next year. We attach great importance to issues related to the upgrading of storage facilities for small and light weapons and conventional ammunitions, as well as of the training capabilities of the personnel on this matter.

This contribution will significantly improve the training capabilities of our country and will result in a better security environment in the Republic of Moldova, as well as in the OSCE region. With the support of the international donors, the Republic of Moldova has voluntarily initiated the process of upgrading the safety and security measures relating to storage facilities. We are also engaged in the process of updating the normative regulations on SALW and SCA in accordance with the best international practices and standards.

The Republic of Moldova will make every effort to ensure the sustainability and the success of the project.

Mr. Chairperson,

We kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



741st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 747, Agenda item 3

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Your Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Dear colleagues,

Today is the last plenary meeting of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) under the Luxembourg Chairmanship. This gives me the opportunity to express my appreciation for the exceptional co-operation and generous support that our Chairmanship has received from all of you.

Over the last four months, we have continued the implementation of the FSC work programme, which we had prepared together with Liechtenstein and Lithuania. Now, as we approach the end of the year, we can take stock of our activities and conclude with pride that 2013 was indeed a good year for the Forum for Security Co-operation. The three Chairmanships received a mandate, and considerable work has been invested in its implementation.

Under the Luxembourg Chairmanship, we adopted several decisions in the FSC. First, the agreement on the meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres, which took place on 10 December 2013, and the agreement on the date of the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) to assess the implementation of confidence- and security-building measures, which will take place in March 2014.

In addition to these two decisions, I should also like to highlight the update of the 1994 OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation, which was adopted in Kyiv. In this context, I should particularly like to thank our co-ordinator, Mr. Vasyl Pokotylo, for his efforts and hard work.

I also wish to extend my thanks to all our co-ordinators, namely:

- Lieutenant Colonel Mark Barlow, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition;
- Mr. Pierre von Arx, FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document;

- Lieutenant Colonel Detlef Hempel, FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security;
- Ms. Bilge Koçyiğit, FSC Co-ordinator on Matters Relating to UNSCR 1325;
- Lieutenant Colonel Simon Macrory-Tinning, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons.

We are very grateful for their support and exemplary work, which has led to a substantial increase in the intensity of our discussions on the respective subjects and made the task of our Chairmanship easier.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The results of the Ministerial Council this year were also, I believe, satisfactory. As you know, we adopted the decision on small arms and light weapons (MC.DEC/8/13) and thus reiterated the desire that this issue should remain a central concern within our Organization.

As regards the decision on issues relevant to the FSC, it should be emphasized that we were not far off reaching an agreement. The difference between the various positions has been significantly reduced. We found wording acceptable to all on the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) and also on United Nations Security Council resolutions 1540, 2106 and 2122. The challenges that remain with us in the Forum concern the Vienna Document and United Nations resolutions 2117 and 1325. Taking into account the constructive atmosphere that we were able to maintain throughout the year and especially in Kyiv, I am confident that the next Chairmanships will move the work of the FSC forward on these issues.

Dear colleagues,

As the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Luxembourg, Mr. Asselborn, mentioned in his address at the opening session of the Luxembourg Chairmanship of the Forum, the success of the FSC is not only measured by the number of decisions adopted. I am sure that the important and fruitful discussions that have taken place within the framework of the Security Dialogues will clearly have a positive impact on the future work of the FSC.

We managed to highlight the ATT, which will help the OSCE to remain at the forefront of efforts to regulate the issue of small arms and light weapons. Furthermore, a special place was reserved for the question of Afghanistan. Our discussions at the joint meeting of the Permanent Council and the Forum on 9 October regarding the challenges linked to Afghanistan after 2014 offered a valuable opportunity to highlight this subject, which will continue to be important over the next few years.

All of the security dialogues were, in one way or another, linked to the Helsinki+40 process. This process effectively represents an attempt by all the participating States to give a strong and continuous political impetus to move the OSCE towards a genuine and sustainable security community built on trust.

The letter sent to the Ukrainian Chairmanship-in-Office from the Chairperson of the FSC in collaboration with the previous Chairmanships of Lithuania and Liechtenstein (FSC.DEL/183/13/Rev.1) outlines all of the FSC's activities in this regard. In this context, we should also mention the declaration on the Helsinki+40 process adopted by the Ministerial Council in Kyiv, which calls upon the FSC to further contribute to the process (MC.DOC/1/13). This fresh political impetus, together with the good work that has been done in 2013, brings us closer to our common objective of completing this process. But there is no doubt that the FSC will increase its contribution over the coming months.

Ladies and gentlemen,

In conclusion, let me once again sincerely thank our colleagues in the FSC Troika, namely Lithuania and Malta, the Secretary General, Mr. Lamberto Zannier, the Conflict Prevention Centre and its Director, Mr. Adam Kobieracki, the FSC Support Section, with Mr. Mathew Geertsen and his team, and the communications group for their co-operation, advice and reliable support.

I should also like to thank Conference Services, in particular Mr. Bekmurad Astanakulov, Ms. Andrea Sekhvat and Ms. Elke Lidarik as well as the professional team of interpreters who have helped us navigate through our meetings.

I would finally like to give the Chairmanship-in-Office its rightful due: a rousing tribute from the FSC and all its members. We express our sincere thanks to the team led by Ambassador Ihor Prokopchuk and our warmest congratulations for the successful organization of the 20th meeting of the Ministerial Council in Kyiv.

Dear colleagues,

Lithuania is about to leave the FSC Troika. During the Lithuanian Chairmanship, Ambassador Čekuolis and his dedicated team worked diligently and left behind well-oiled mechanisms and a work ethic of the highest order. We have endeavoured to enhance this legacy and have tried to leave our mark during the past four months.

Finally, I should like to welcome Moldova as the new member of the FSC Troika in 2014.

Lastly, I should like to wish our colleagues and friends from Malta, Ambassador Keith Azzopardi and his team, much success during their Chairmanship of the FSC. These wishes are reinforced by the handing over of this gavel and the objects that accompany it. I hope that they will prove as useful for your Chairmanship as they have been for ours.

Thank you.