

Chairmanship: Estonia

550th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 18 June 2008

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 10.30 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ms. T. Parts

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Fifth anniversary meeting of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI), held in Washington, D.C., on 28 May 2008: United States of America (Annex 1)

Agenda item 2: SECURITY DIALOGUE

None

Agenda item 3: DECISION ON THE HANDBOOK OF BEST PRACTICES
ON CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 6/08 (FSC.DEC/6/08), the text of which is appended to this journal, on the Handbook of Best Practices on Conventional Ammunition.

Agenda item 4: CHAIRPERSON'S STATEMENT ON COMPLYING WITH
THE TIMEFRAMES FOR REQUESTING AN INSPECTION
OR AN EVALUATION VISIT

The Chairperson made a statement on complying with the timeframes for requesting an inspection or an evaluation visit, the text of which is annexed to this journal (Annex 2).

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Matters of protocol*: Spain, Chairperson, Greece, Sweden, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Sweden), United Kingdom, Belarus, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Belarus), Tajikistan
- (b) *Update on the OSCE Communications Group*: Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 25 June 2008, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



550th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 556, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

I would like to take this opportunity to inform the Forum for Security Co-operation of the significant results of the fifth-anniversary meeting of the Proliferation Security Initiative (PSI) participating states held in Washington, D.C., on 28 May.

As you know, the PSI is a multinational activity directed at preventing the trafficking of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and related materials to and from States and non-State actors of proliferation concern, with a particular focus on delivery systems.

Eighty-eight States attended the Senior Political Level Meeting to discuss the achievements of the PSI and to chart a course for the future work of the Initiative. The PSI participating states marked the fifth anniversary of the Initiative by adopting the “Washington Declaration for PSI 5th Anniversary Senior-Level Meeting.”

The U.S. commends all PSI participating states for their continued efforts to address WMD proliferation co-operatively. We would like to reiterate the following statement from the Declaration: “The PSI participating states encourage endorsement of the Statement of Interdiction Principles and participation in the PSI by all states that are committed to preventing the proliferation of WMD, their means of delivery, and related materials.”

I would also like to point out that the Declaration states, *inter alia*, that the PSI participating states are committed to the full implementation of UN Security Council resolution (UNSCR) 1540, and that participation in the PSI is one effective way to fulfil operational paragraph 10 of UNSCR 1540 — another WMD issue the FSC continues to address.

For your further reference, on 16 June 2008 we circulated the full text of the Declaration, a statement by President Bush on the PSI anniversary, and a PSI fact sheet to delegations as SEC.DEL/89/08.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/556

18 June 2008

Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

550th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 556, Agenda item 4

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

In order to facilitate implementation of Vienna Document 1999 verification provisions the participating States have expressed their willingness to underline the importance of complying strictly with the timeframes set out in paragraphs 85 and 112 for requesting an inspection or evaluation visit.

550th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 556, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 6/08
HANDBOOK OF BEST PRACTICES ON
CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA) (FSC.DOC/1/03, 19 November 2003)

Recalling Section VII of the OSCE Document on SCA, in which participating States agreed to consider developing a “best practice” guide of techniques and procedures for the destruction of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices, and the management and control of stockpiles, and noting that such a document would cover, *inter alia*, indicators of surplus and risk, standards and procedures for the proper management of stockpiles, norms to be used in determining which stockpiles should be destroyed, as well as standards and technical procedures of destruction,

Noting that a handbook gathering these best practice guides could serve as a guide for national policy-making by participating States and encourage higher common standards of practice among all participating States,

Acknowledging that such a handbook of best practices could also be useful to OSCE Partners for Co-operation and other United Nations Member States in their efforts to tackle the risks and challenges caused by the presence of stockpiles of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices in surplus and/or awaiting destruction,

Recognizing the work done by participating States to complete this task,

Decides to:

- Welcome the development of the best practice guides on conventional ammunition and endorse the compilation of those that are currently available and under preparation into a handbook of best practices in all six OSCE languages;
- Ensure that the remaining guides are included in the handbook when finalized and reviewed;

- Encourage participating States to make this handbook available to all relevant national authorities for its implementation as appropriate;
- Task the Conflict Prevention Centre to ensure the widest possible distribution, including the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and the United Nations, of this handbook after its completion;
- Take account of this handbook, including the possibility of its further development during the regular review of the OSCE Document on SCA, in accordance with Section VII, paragraph 37 of the Document;
- Append this decision to the handbook in order to be distributed with it.