

United States Chairmanship

402nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM/Corrected reissue*

1. Date: Wednesday, 8 October 2003

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. J. Cox

3. Subjects discussed - Statements - Decisions:

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Statement by the Chairperson on Transit for VD 99 Verification Activities:*
Chairperson (Annex)

(b) *FSC contribution to implementation of Porto tasks:* Russian Federation,
Chairperson

Agenda item 2: SECURITY DIALOGUE

Non-proliferation: presentations by Mr. L. Zannier, OSCE/CPC, and Ms. K. Cutright, United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency: Chairperson, OSCE/Conflict Prevention Centre (SEC.GAL/180/03/Restr.), United States Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Finland, Russian Federation, Belarus, Switzerland, Albania (FSC.DEL/434/03/Restr.), United States of America, Canada, Armenia, France, United Kingdom, Austria, Netherlands

Agenda item 3: INFORMATION BY CPC DIRECTOR ON 2004
PROGRAMME OUTLINE FOR "ACTIVITIES RELATING
TO MILITARY ASPECTS OF SECURITY"

Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Belarus, Chairperson,
United Kingdom, Austria

* Incorporates an amendment to agenda item 3.

Agenda item 4: DRAFT DECISION ON DATES AND VENUE OF THE
FOURTEENTH ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION
ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 8/03 (FSC.DEC/8/03), the text of which is appended to this Journal, on Dates and Venue of the Fourteenth Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting.

Agenda item 5: FSC CONTRIBUTION TO THE MAASTRICHT
MINISTERIAL COUNCIL DECLARATION

Chairperson, Belgium, Turkey, Austria, Finland, Belarus

Agenda item 6: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Inspections under the Vienna Document 1999:* Finland
- (b) *Request by Belarus for the FSC's expert advice on implementation of Section V of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons:* Chairperson, Belarus
- (c) *OSCE Communications Network:* Conflict Prevention Centre
- (d) *Joint FSC/PC Meeting to be held on 23 October 2003:* Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 22 October 2003, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



402nd Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 408, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

In order to ensure the expeditious conduct of verification activities (inspections and evaluation visits) in accordance with Chapter IX of the Vienna Document 1999, it is the established practice to issue entry visas to the members of the verification teams at the point of entry (POE) of the receiving participating State.

The participating States note that the consequent lack of documentation at the point of departure or during transit through a third participating State is not easily acknowledged by air transport operators and/or border officials, and thus may cause undue delays.

It is understood that, in order to facilitate the passage of verification teams through their territories, the participating States have expressed their willingness to implement, if necessary, the following procedures:

1. Travel by air or ground transportation directly to the participating States where the verification activity is to be conducted (receiving State):
 - (a) The entry visas will continue to be issued by the relevant officials of the receiving State at the POE.
 - (b) This procedure will be specified in the formats in use for requesting inspections or evaluation visits (F-33 and F-36, respectively), adding to the personal data on the members of the team (including date and place of birth, nationality, passport type and number) and the precise travel parameters, the following remark at point 4 (Remarks): "The receiving participating State is requested to issue the visa at the POE and to confirm in its reply that the visa will be issued at the POE."
 - (c) The receiving participating State, in its reply (F-34 and F-37, respectively), will confirm this procedure.
 - (d) The national authorities of each participating State responsible for the implementation of VD99 will duly inform airline companies, airport and border authorities that this is a procedure approved at governmental level by all States party to Vienna Document 1999.

- (e) The copies of the Formats mentioned above will be shown, if necessary, at the departure gates of the airports/points of exit from national borders.
2. Travel by air or ground transportation with transit through a third participating State:
- (a) The requesting participating State, when an intermediate landing/passage in a third participating State is envisaged, will send to the participating State in question a message using format F-41, indicating the personal data on the members of the verification team (including date and place of birth, nationality, passport type and number) and the precise travel parameters (arrival/departure by air/land) and inserting the following language: “the authorities of the participating State, responsible for the implementation of Vienna Document 1999 are requested to inform the airport/border authorities of the composition, arrival and departure times of the team and of the procedure for issuing the appropriate visas and to act as suitable to facilitate the passage of the team without delay.”
 - (b) In case a longer stay in a third participating State is unavoidable, the following phrase will be added: “the transited participating State is kindly requested to indicate a point of contact, and if feasible, to assign a liaison officer to meet the team before the passport control point and to escort it during its stay.” The costs of accommodation, transportation, etc. of the verification team within the country of transit will be covered by the verification team. The costs of the liaison officer will be subject to agreement between the participating States in question.
 - (c) The transited participating State will reply to the request using format F-41.