

Chairmanship: Portugal

840th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 14 December 2016

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 11.50 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M. da Graça Mira Gomes

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of the FSC, offered condolences to Turkey in connection with the twin bomb attack that took place in Istanbul on 10 December 2016. Turkey thanked the Chairperson and delegations for their expressions of sympathy.

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

Agenda item 1: DECISION ON THE AGENDA AND MODALITIES OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 8/16 (FSC.DEC/8/16) on the agenda and modalities of the twenty-seventh Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 2: DISCUSSION ON THE OUTCOME OF THE 2016 OSCE MINISTERIAL COUNCIL

Chairperson, Slovakia-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 Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and

Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/224/16), Canada, United States of America, Switzerland, Armenia, Belarus, Turkey, Russian Federation

Agenda item 3: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/226/16), Slovakia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/225/16), Canada, United States of America, Russian Federation (Annex)

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

Agenda item 5: CLOSING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
FSC, H.E. AMBASSADOR MARIA DA GRAÇA MIRA
GOMES

Chairperson (FSC.DEL/228/16 OSCE+), Poland, Germany, Romania, Russian Federation

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 18 January 2017, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/846
14 December 2016
Annex

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

840th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 846, Agenda item 3

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

Dear Madam Chairperson,

In connection with the reference to Crimea in the statements by a number of delegations today, the delegation of the Russian Federation feels obliged to make the following observations.

The proclamation of independence of the Republic of Crimea and its incorporation into the Russian Federation was a legal expression of the right of the people of Crimea to self-determination at a time when Ukraine, with outside support, was in the throes of a *coup d'état*, with radical nationalist elements exerting a forceful influence on the decisions adopted in the country, which in turn resulted in the interests of the Ukrainian regions and Russian-speaking population being ignored.

The multi-ethnic population of Crimea took the corresponding decisions by a huge majority in a free and fair expression of its will. The status of the Republic of Crimea and the city of Sevastopol as constituent entities of the Russian Federation is not open to reconsideration or discussion. Crimea is and will remain Russian. This is a fact that our partners will have to come to terms with.

This position is based on and fully complies with international law.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson. I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

840th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 846, Agenda item 1

DECISION No. 8/16
AGENDA AND MODALITIES OF THE TWENTY-SEVENTH
ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING

(28 February and 1 March 2017)

Vienna Document:

- (148) *The participating States will hold each year a meeting to discuss the present and future implementation of agreed CSBMs. Discussion may extend to:*
- (148.1) – *Clarification of questions arising from such implementation;*
 - (148.2) – *Operation of agreed measures, including the use of additional equipment during inspections and evaluation visits;*
 - (148.3) – *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.*
- (149) *Before the conclusion of each year's meeting the participating States will normally agree upon the agenda and dates for the subsequent year's meeting. Lack of agreement will not constitute sufficient reason to extend a meeting, unless otherwise agreed. Agenda and dates may, if necessary, be agreed between meetings.*
- (150) *The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) will hold such meetings. It will consider, as required, suggestions made during the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) aiming at the improvement of the implementation of CSBMs.*
- (150.4) *Participating States which, for whatever reason, have not exchanged annual information according to this document and have not provided an explanation under the FSC announcing and reminding mechanism, will during the meeting explain the reasons why and provide an expected date for their full compliance with this commitment.*

I. Agenda and indicative timetable

Tuesday, 28 February 2017

- 10–11 a.m. Opening session
- Opening of the Meeting by the Chairperson
 - Remarks by the Chairperson of the FSC
 - Presentation of a summary report and of the report on the Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres by the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC)
 - General statements
- 11.30 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 1: Implementation of the Global Exchange of Military Information (GEMI) and the Vienna Document, Introduction and Chapters I to III: Clarifications, assessments and conclusions
- GEMI
 - Vienna Document
 - Introduction
 - Annual exchange of military information
 - (i) Information on military forces
 - (ii) Data relating to major weapon and equipment systems
 - (iii) Information on plans for the deployment of major weapon and equipment systems
 - Defence planning
 - (i) Exchange of information
 - (ii) Clarification, review and dialogue
 - Risk reduction
 - (i) Mechanism for consultation and co-operation as regards unusual military activities
 - (ii) Co-operation as regards hazardous incidents of a military nature
 - (iii) Voluntary hosting of visits to dispel concerns about military activities
- 1–3 p.m. Lunch break

3–5 p.m. Working session 1 continued if necessary

Working session 2: Implementation of the Vienna Document, Chapters IV to XII: Clarifications, assessments and conclusions

- Contacts
 - (i) Visits to air bases
 - (ii) Programme of military contacts and co-operation
 - (iii) Military contacts, military co-operation
 - (iv) Demonstration of new types of major weapon and equipment systems
 - (v) Provision of information on contacts
- Military activities
 - (i) Prior notification of certain military activities
 - (ii) Observation of certain military activities
 - (iii) Annual calendars
 - (iv) Constraining provisions
- Compliance and verification
 - (i) Inspection
 - (ii) Evaluation
- Regional measures
- Communications Network

Wednesday, 1 March 2017

10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 2 continued if necessary

Working session 3: Suggestions aiming at improvement of the implementation of CSBMs

1–3 p.m. Lunch break

3–4 p.m. Working session 3 continued

4.30–5.30 p.m. Closing session

- Discussion
- Possible recommendations on the dates and the agenda and modalities of the 2018 AIAM
- Concluding remarks
- Closure

II. Organizational modalities

1. The AIAM will last two days and will have opening and closing sessions and working sessions dealing with the topics contained in the agenda (Part I, above). The indicative timetable provides greater detail.
2. The organizational meeting of chairpersons, co-ordinators, rapporteurs, and the CPC is scheduled to be held on Monday, 27 February 2017, at 3 p.m. The working hours of the AIAM will be on the first day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m., and on the second day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5.30 p.m.
3. Interpretation into the official languages of the OSCE will be provided at all sessions of the AIAM.
4. The sessions will be chaired by representatives of the participating States, in rotation, in accordance with the French alphabetical order, following on from the chairing of the closing plenary meeting of the 2016 AIAM by Italy. The chair of the opening session and working sessions will be held by Kazakhstan. The chair of the closing session will be held by Latvia.
5. Debates in the working sessions will be oriented towards problems and solutions and there will be no formal statements. Any national statements for the opening session should be presented in written form only and are to be distributed in advance. The working sessions are designed to be informal meetings of national experts with the objectives of answering questions, exchanging information and allowing for constructive debate between participating States. Delegations are strongly encouraged to provide detailed presentations and concrete examples of their own implementation experiences. Delegations are welcome to distribute written contributions prior to the Meeting, both on agenda items and on related matters for possible discussion. All delegations are strongly encouraged to provide national experts to participate in the AIAM.
6. To serve as a basis for preparatory work by delegations and co-ordinators, the CPC will circulate the following no later than 31 January 2017:
 - The revised Annual Survey on CSBM Information Exchanged and the AIAM Survey of Suggestions 2016;
 - A summary report on recent trends in the implementation of the Vienna Document and other measures;
 - A summary report on the Meeting of the Heads of Verification Centres.
7. Each working session will have one designated co-ordinator and one rapporteur throughout. The task of the co-ordinators will be to facilitate and follow the discussion, while the immediate task of the rapporteurs will be to present brief written summary reports for use by the Chairperson of the closing session.
8. The co-ordinators will circulate a list of topics and questions designed to facilitate discussion in their working sessions no later than 7 February 2017. They will be supported by

the CPC in this regard. They will ensure that all relevant areas are addressed. The co-ordinators are also encouraged to focus discussions on suggestions that might be supported by the delegations.

9. Delegations that have volunteers to act as co-ordinators and/or rapporteurs for the working sessions should provide the names of the individuals to the Chairperson of the FSC as soon as possible, but no later than 30 January 2017. The names of the co-ordinators and rapporteurs for all the working sessions will be made known to all delegations no later than 31 January 2017.

10. At the first FSC plenary meeting following the AIAM, the Chairperson of the closing session will report to the FSC on the AIAM. Within one month after the AIAM, the Chairperson will provide the Consolidated Summary containing the Chairperson's statements and the presentations in the opening session, the reports of the rapporteurs of the working sessions and the Chairperson's closing remarks. Prior to publication, the rapporteurs are encouraged to circulate their draft reports to the delegations of those participating States that contributed to the relevant working session. Within a month after the AIAM, the CPC will circulate a written report on suggestions made during the Meeting aimed at improving the implementation of CSBMs.

11. In order to ensure the most productive discussion in the FSC when the participating States consider, as required, suggestions for improvement of the implementation of CSBMs made during the Meeting, the approach recommended is for delegations to bring forward suggestions or topics of interest by means of food-for-thought papers. Discussions on initial papers could lead to further work in the FSC.

12. Before the conclusion of the 2017 AIAM, the participating States are encouraged to consider recommendations for the agenda and dates for the 2018 AIAM. The agenda, modalities and dates of the 2018 AIAM should be adopted by a decision in the FSC before the end of 2017.

13. The Partners for Co-operation and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly are invited to attend all sessions of the 2017 AIAM.