

Chairmanship: Liechtenstein

706th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 23 January 2013

Opened: 11.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M.-P. Kothbauer

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

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT OF THE
FSC CHAIRMANSHIP OF LIECHTENSTEIN BY
AMBASSADOR MARIA-PIA KOTHBAUER

Chairperson (Annex), Ireland-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/1/13), Belarus (FSC.DEL/4/12 OSCE+), Ukraine, Turkey (FSC.DEL/3/12 OSCE+), the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Switzerland, United States of America, Armenia, Lithuania, Russian Federation, Azerbaijan

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

None

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Matters of protocol: United Kingdom, Sweden, Netherlands, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 30 January 2013, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

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Annex

ENGLISH

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706th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 712, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON

Excellencies,
Colleagues,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is an honour and a pleasure for me to welcome you to the first meeting of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) in 2013 and at the same time to inaugurate the Liechtenstein Chairmanship for the first trimester of this year. I should also like to take this opportunity to thank the previous Macedonian Chairmanship and Latvia as the outgoing member of the Troika sincerely for their excellent and exemplary work and to officially welcome Lithuania as the new member of the FSC Troika.

The start of a new year is a time for new opportunities and resolutions. In that context we should like to continue energetically with the implementation of our common goals. In doing so we count on the support of you all, our Troika partners, the co-ordinators, the FSC Support Section and Conference Services.

Valuable discussions took place in this Forum last year. Even if the political realities were only too evident at the Ministerial Council in Dublin, the work of the FSC should not only be measured in terms of Ministerial Council decisions.

We find ourselves in a phase of reflection. At such a stage, in which it is possibly too early for concrete negotiations, we should like all the more during our Chairmanship to give greater consideration to the need for dialogue and exchange. With this in mind we should like to bring new impetus to the work of the FSC through high-quality security dialogue, all the more so as we are firmly convinced that progress in the politico-military dimension of the OSCE is possible and necessary.

At the same time we can continue to build in all the FSC's areas of work on existing documents and past commitments. We have set ourselves the target of continuing their implementation accordingly. Our particular attention will naturally be devoted to the Astana Commemorative Declaration and the Vilnius Ministerial Council decisions as the most recent documents adopted at the highest level.

We have also been guided by these ideas in drawing up our tentative working programme. The document was circulated last week under reference number FSC.INF/3/13. I should like to take this opportunity of expressing my sincere thanks to Lithuania and Luxembourg, the other two countries who will hold the Chairmanship in 2013, for their excellent co-operation.

Specifically, you will recognize both familiar recurrent elements and new ones in the programme. An important fixed point during the first trimester will be the twenty-third Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) on 5 and 6 March 2013. The relevant decisions were already adopted last year under the Macedonian Chairmanship. In preparing for that meeting we shall work in close collaboration with Georgia and France to ensure the success of the AIAM, which is an important platform for constructive dialogue on implementation issues.

We are also concerned to make an early start to the preparations for the FSC's contribution to the Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) so as to ensure as substantive a contribution by our Forum as possible. We attach great importance as well to the preparations for the successful organization of the second annual discussion on the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security.

A number of interesting food-for-thought papers on the modernization and updating of the Vienna Document 2011 exist, ranging from technical improvements and substantive changes to existing measures to proposals for new confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs). This is a sign not only of the abiding interest in the Vienna Document but also of its significance. We shall therefore devote security dialogue specifically to this theme.

In the immediate future it will also be necessary to adapt the Vienna Document following the admission of Mongolia as the 57th participating State.

It should be mentioned at this point that a representative of the Ministry of Defence of Mongolia will inaugurate our security dialogue and will present the national security and defence strategy of his country at next week's FSC meeting.

A further new element in the work of the FSC in 2013 comes from the very important Ministerial Council decision in Dublin on the Helsinki+40 process. The long-term orientation of this process in particular offers an opportunity for substantive results on the way to our common goal of a security community. We take the task entrusted to the FSC by our ministers of contributing to this process very seriously and are willing to work closely in this regard with the Ukraine as the current OSCE Chairmanship.

In the area of conventional arms control, which is regarded as an essential aspect of security and stability on our continent, a number of ideas and initiatives are currently being discussed in various contexts. We note the intention of the Ukrainian Chairmanship to discuss the future role of arms control in Europe in the OSCE. Our Secretary General Ambassador Lamberto Zannier is also planning to contribute to this subject with initiatives of his own. The revival of discussion on the further development of CSBMs and the role of arms control is to be welcomed and should be carried out as well within the FSC in the framework

of its mandate. It will also be important to ensure that the discussion in the various forums is as coherent and complementary as possible.

As far as the specific programme of the Liechtenstein FSC Chairmanship for the next trimester is concerned, I refer to the indicative schedule of FSC plenary meetings distributed as document FSC.INF/2/13/Rev.1.

For a State like Liechtenstein, which has no armed forces and does not belong to any security alliance, the observance of international norms and the application of international law are of particular importance. For that reason we have provided for security dialogue on strengthening international humanitarian law. Within the security dialogue there will also be a contribution by the Director of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) on human rights and fundamental freedoms in the armed forces, with particular emphasis on the rights of women, a further thematic focus of Liechtenstein's foreign policy. In the last few years Liechtenstein has also supported the OSCE with regular voluntary contributions in all three dimensions. In the politico-military dimension our focus lies on projects relating to small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition.

Both the schedule and the annual programme are tentative and will possibly be adapted and expanded in the course of our work.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The Vienna Document 2011, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, the documents on small arms and light weapons and on stockpiles of conventional ammunition and the OSCE Principles Governing Non-Proliferation remain the FSC's most important normative documents, and we also intend in the coming months to devote our efforts to their implementation. We should like in addition to continue to further promote the implementation in the OSCE region of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1540 and 1325.

I am therefore particularly pleased to inform you that in close co-operation with the Troika and the Conflict Prevention Centre all co-ordinator positions within the FSC Chairmanship have already been filled. The following mandates are confirmed:

- Lieutenant Colonel László Szatmári (Hungarian delegation) as FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition;
- Pierre von Arx (Swiss delegation) as FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document;
- Lieutenant Colonel Detlef Hempel (German delegation) as FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security;
- Vasyl Pokotylo (Ukrainian delegation) as FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator for Non-Proliferation Issues.

I am also pleased to announce the following new appointments:

- Counsellor Bilge Koçığıt (Turkish delegation) as FSC Co-ordinator for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325;
- Counsellor Zhanar Kulzhanova (Kazakh delegation) *chef de file* of the FSC for the 2013 Annual Security Review Conference;
- Lieutenant Colonel Simon J. Macrory-Tinning (British delegation) as chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on SALW.

I should also like to take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks on behalf of the entire Troika to the co-ordinators for their willingness to undertake these important tasks. This is not self-evident and we are grateful that we can count on their professional support.

Finally, we should like to continue the tradition of the FSC Chairmanship States of the last few years of inviting our Partner States to the FSC. Dialogue with our Partner States needs to be encouraged.

Thank you for your attention.