

**Chairmanship: Liechtenstein**

**712th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 13 March 2013

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M.-P. Kothbauer

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

- (a) *Presentation on the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM) by H.E. M. Pejanović-Đurišić, Minister of Defence of Montenegro:* Chairperson, Minister of Defence of Montenegro (FSC.DEL/49/13 OSCE+), Lieutenant Colonel N. Luković (FSC.DEL/46/13 OSCE+), Head of the OSCE Mission to Montenegro, United Nations Resident Coordinator / UNDP Resident Representative in Montenegro, Ireland-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/43/13), Hungary, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary), Spain, Denmark, Netherlands, Turkey
- (b) *Presentation on strengthening compliance with international humanitarian law by Ambassador N. Lang, Ambassador-at-Large for the Application of International Humanitarian Law, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland:* Chairperson, Mr. N. Lang (FSC.DEL/41/13 OSCE+), United Kingdom, Austria, Holy See, United States of America, Canada

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1 Includes a correction to the alignments of the interpretative statement to FSC Decision No. 2/13 adopted under agenda item 4.

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) *Briefing by the Secretary General on the Security Days event on developing a new approach to conventional arms control, held in Vienna on 4 March 2013: Secretary General (SEC.GAL/52/13 OSCE+), Austria (Annex 1), Chairperson*
- (b) *Exercise Joint Warrior, to be held in the United Kingdom from 15 to 25 April 2013: United Kingdom (Annex 2), France, Germany, Russian Federation, United States of America, Netherlands*
- (c) *Report on the twenty-third Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting by the chairperson of the closing session (Georgia): Georgia*

Agenda item 3: VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS DECISION ON CHANGES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ACCESSION OF MONGOLIA TO THE OSCE

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 1/13 (FSC.DEC/1/13) on the Vienna Document Plus decision on changes in the context of the accession of Mongolia to the OSCE; the text of the decision is appended to this journal.

Agenda item 4: VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS DECISION ON UPDATING THE TITLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS INSTRUMENT FOR STANDARDIZED INTERNATIONAL REPORTING OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES

Chairperson

**Decision:** The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 2/13 (FSC.DEC/2/13) on the Vienna Document Plus decision on updating the title of the United Nations Instrument for Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures; the text of the decision is appended to this journal.

Netherlands (also on behalf of Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Finland, France, United Kingdom, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the Czech Republic) (interpretative statement, see attachment to the decision), Russian Federation (Annex 3), United States of America

Agenda item 5: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Briefing on a proposal for the transition of the armed forces of the Russian Federation: Russian Federation (Annex 4), United Kingdom*

- (b) *Appeal for support for the Vienna City Marathon charity event on 14 April 2013, in which military advisers of delegations of OSCE participating States are taking part: Luxembourg, United Kingdom, Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 20 March 2013, at 11 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**712th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 2(a)

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA**

Madam Chairperson,

I thank the Secretary General for his personal presentation and for his important and timely initiative for the Security Days event on developing a new approach to conventional arms control. Austria supports this initiative for two reasons:

1. We consider the Security Days initiative, i.e. the involvement of academic points of view and independent expertise, to be very valuable. From time to time the OSCE requires open, informal and creative dialogue – without blinkers, a blood transfusion, as it were, from the outside. Yesterday's Security Day on Afghanistan and Central Asia was a further successful example of this. We regard the continuation of initiatives like this as a positive contribution to our discussion within the Helsinki+40 process and our long-term aim of creating a comprehensive security community from Vancouver to Vladivostok.
2. I am pleased to note that this idea of open, forward-looking dialogue on the future of conventional arms control in Europe aroused extremely great interest. More than 200 participants assembled on 4 March at the National Defence Academy.

Various different points of view were naturally heard in the discussion, but there were also certain leitmotifs running through it: the observation, for example, that the state of the existing conventional arms control regime in Europe, the work of the Joint Consultative Group, and the Open Skies Consultative Commission give rise for concern. Erosion and degradation were the terms used in the event. Further modernization of the Vienna Document on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures also appears to have stalled at the moment. There was widespread consensus that conventional arms control affects all 57 participating States and that comprehensive discussion should take account of the changed defence and security situation and perceived threats. Discussion on this topic should take place both within and outside the OSCE. Regular discussion in the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC), if necessary the establishment of a "group of friends" or a co-ordinator for conventional arms control, and a summary and list of existing instruments are all options that we believe worth following up.

In conclusion, I should also like to give my assurance that Austria welcomes and basically supports the current efforts by the Ukrainian Chairmanship in this area. We remain

willing to make a constructive contribution to this subject within the FSC, the Helsinki+40 process and track II initiatives.

Madam Chairperson,

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.



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**712th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 2(b)

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Madam Chairperson,

On 3 October 2012 the UK made a statement concerning Exercise Joint Warrior and I wish to give a short update. I also have a more comprehensive written brief that I will make available to delegations upon request.

Exercise Joint Warrior is a tri-service and multinational exercise conducted in the UK during the spring and the autumn of each year. The exercise provides high-quality co-ordinated training at the tactical level for all three UK armed services and numerous visiting units from allied and other nations, and is designed to improve interoperability amongst participating air, land and maritime forces. With up to 12,735 personnel deployed during the first exercise of 2013 (from 15 to 25 April 2013), it will be the largest exercise held in Western Europe this year. Despite its size, owing to its force composition the exercise remains below the threshold for notifiable military activities set out in the Vienna Document 2011.

Both of the UK's High Readiness Brigade Headquarters and their subordinate units will complete the training required to allow them to maintain their readiness for theatre entry and contingency operations. For 3 Commando Brigade this will include an amphibious landing led by 42 Commando Royal Marines and a Dutch marine battalion. 16 Air Assault Brigade will conduct an airborne insertion of a parachute battalion together with a French Foreign Legion follow-on battalion. Support and attack helicopters will be involved in this training. A variety of other UK and allied land forces will conduct mission-specific training in Scotland and northern England; this also entails forward air control and ground-based air defence training and integration.

Sixty separate naval units from the UK, the US, Belgium, Germany, the Netherlands, France, Norway, Denmark, Canada and Sweden will also participate. The Commander Maritime Force from the Netherlands will deploy afloat on HNLMS Evertsen and will be working as a commander task unit alongside the standing NATO Maritime Group 1.

Up to 40 fixed-wing aircraft will also be involved. These include RAF air-to-air refuelling tankers, Sentry E3D aircraft, Tornado GR4s and Typhoons. Nine maritime patrol aircraft from the United States, Canada, France and Brazil will be hosted at RAF

Lossiemouth. The French Navy Carrier Air Group made up of Rafale, Super Etendard and an E2C Hawkeye will be hosted at RAF Leuchars.

To meet the participant nations' training needs, Exercise Joint Warrior facilitates a very broad range of evolving crisis and conflict scenarios involving multiple sovereign nations, disputed territory, smuggling, piracy and terrorist activity. Over its two-week duration the exercise will develop through a period of military and political tension into simulated war-fighting and potential State-on-State hostilities. These scenarios facilitate training in a number of disciplines, including:

- Composite air operations and close air support;
- Electronic warfare;
- Anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare;
- Mine countermeasures;
- Counter-insurgency and counter-narcotics;
- Logistic support;
- GPS denial – in north-west Scotland only.

Due to the demands on modern armed forces and changes to the organization of training activity, Exercise Joint Warrior has become the exercise of choice for validating the performance of staffs and military formations and is the principal exercise for training units in joint operations as part of a task group.

Madam Chairperson,

The UK supports the need for enhanced transparency and military predictability and sees utility in continuing to provide such information to the Forum, when it:

- Is given before the military activity occurs;
- Consists of substantive information that is of genuine transparency value;
- Complements existing formal commitments in a meaningful way.

Although the UK has provided this information voluntarily today, we believe it would be of wider benefit to all participating States and, in turn, be a significant contribution to confidence and security if land-based military activities of this scale were formally notified; we therefore take this opportunity to reiterate the pressing need for the substantial modernization of VD 11, especially regarding the lowering of Chapter V thresholds.

I request that you attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.



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

FSC.JOUR/718/Corr.1  
13 March 2013  
Annex 3

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

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**712th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 4

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

Madam Chairperson,

The delegation of the Russian Federation expresses its satisfaction at the adoption by the Forum for Security Co-operation of the Vienna Document Plus decision on updating the title of the United Nations Instrument for Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures. It is our firm conviction that this has been possible thanks to the constructive and realistic approach by all participating States.

For the Russian Federation, this decision in no way changes the scope of its political commitments and their implementation in practice. We continue to provide information in accordance with the standardized method of reporting.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/718/Corr.1  
13 March 2013  
Annex 4

ENGLISH  
Original: RUSSIAN

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**712th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 5(a)

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

Madam Chairperson,

Today our delegation believes it necessary, on the basis of information from the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation and as a sign of goodwill, to acquaint our distinguished colleagues with some of the results of the expanded meeting of the Board of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation held on 27 February.

The President of the Russian Federation and Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, Vladimir Putin, participated in the work of that meeting.

In his address to the participants in that meeting, the Russian Head of State announced that the evolving geopolitical situation required rapid and considered action and that the Russian armed forces would have to reach a fundamentally new capability level within the next three to five years.

The Russian President identified a number of specific priority tasks. In the period immediately ahead it will be necessary to fully complete the establishment of a comprehensive strategic planning system in the military sphere. In the course of 2013 the General Staff must define its basic policies and conceptual foundations for organizing the country's defence over the period 2016–2020. This plan must be drawn up in full detail within the next two years.

The work to establish fully fledged forces in all strategic areas must be completed. All formations and units need to be combat-ready on a permanent basis. The armed forces' manpower requirements for enlisted personnel (sergeants and privates) must be met in full during the period 2013–2014. In this connection, the length of conscripted military service will remain at 12 months and will not be subject to review. Accordingly, there will be an increase in the proportion of professional contract soldiers. In this same connection, it will be necessary to further expand the system for the training of specialists (officers, sergeants and privates), taking into account the growing needs of our troops, and to ensure the smooth and stable operation of the training centres, military institutions of higher education and academies.

There is a need to improve the quality of combat training and to set higher standards to be met by every soldier and commander. In that connection, the Russian President emphasized that combat training programmes must replicate as closely as possible actual conditions, i.e. conditions of modern combat, and must take into account contemporary methods of warfare. It is precisely this kind of thinking that must underlie the organization of the Zapad-2013 (West-2013) strategic exercise. New weapons systems must be tested in the field, along with the functioning of the troop command and control systems and the co-ordination of the operations of units and formations.

President Putin endorsed the work of the new leadership of the Ministry of Defence, which relies in its work on the officer corps, stressing that this is an essential condition if the Russian army and navy are to be effectively developed.

The Defence Minister of the Russian Federation, Army General Sergey Shoygu, delivered a keynote report. The head of the defence department took stock of the activities during 2012 and identified the tasks for the period ahead.

General Shoygu underscored that the key task was to strengthen the country's defence capabilities. A wide range of measures have been taken by the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation to develop the armed forces. Multi-branch forces have been set up in strategic areas. Scheduled deliveries of new weapons and military equipment to the troops have begun. Formations and military units in a state of permanent combat readiness have been established and their training has been made more intensive.

However, there are a number of areas in which adjustments are required in the way the armed forces are being developed. Effective proposals on the way the armed forces are deployed have been formulated. A programme for developing the infrastructure of garrison towns for 2013–2014 and for the longer term through to 2017 has been drawn up and is being implemented. This document involves specific deadlines and resources.

The armed forces command and control system is being improved. For the first time there are plans within the Ministry of Defence to create a vertically integrated multilevel automated command and control system.

Command and control centres for combat and day-to-day operations are being established within the Ministry of Defence. This system will cover the entire chain of command within the armed forces, in addition to making it possible to co-ordinate the efforts of the 49 ministries and departments involved in implementing the country's Defence Plan.

The fundamental aspects underlying the way in which the combat training system operates have been more precisely formulated. To that end, the Chief Directorate for Combat Training has been re-established. The ranks "warrant officer" and "midshipman" have been reintroduced. The Defence Minister noted that modern high-technology weapons and equipment require appropriate training on the part of the personnel using them. Greater efforts are therefore being made to increase the number of contract servicemen, and work is under way, together with the chambers of the Federal Assembly, to raise the age limit for military service by five years for all categories of contract servicemen. For the first time in

the last three years the total number of students at military institutions of higher education will reach 15,000.

The Defence Minister touched in his report on a number of problems connected with the provision of new equipment and weapons. In particular, the question of the pricing of defence-related items needs to be resolved. In this connection, the senior level of the Ministry of Defence has adopted measures aimed at the effective implementation of the procurement by the State of defence-related items and material (the State Defence Order) for 2013. The arrangements for monitoring by the military at civilian manufacturing enterprises of goods intended for military use have been improved. A decision was taken from 2013 to conclude contracts for the entire life cycle of weapons and equipment delivered on a scheduled basis. Servicing, intermediate-level maintenance and major overhaul will be carried out at defence industry enterprises, whereas day-to-day maintenance will be the responsibility of the troop repair facilities, which are to be reintroduced.

Alongside the issues involved in the development of the military, one of the priority tasks facing the Ministry of Defence is how best to deal with the social problems confronting military personnel. Decisions have been taken to improve the health-care system for military personnel, their families and military pensioners and to speed up work on tackling housing problems.

In the concluding part of his report, the Defence Minister identified the priorities facing the department in its work in 2013, specifically:

- Work on the implementation of the Defence Plan of the Russian Federation;
- Provision for the deployment of paratroopers as rapid reaction forces for dealing more effectively with crisis situations;
- Work on new approaches to the way in which troops are mobilized and deployed and in which reserves are trained in accordance with the new law;
- Completion of the reorganization of the military-scientific complex;
- The equipping in full of special operations forces and special forces detachments with modern weapons and military equipment;
- Ensuring the synchronized preparation of the infrastructure facilities of military garrison towns for the receipt of new military equipment and weapons systems according to the plans for 2013;
- Work on the unconditional implementation of the State Defence Order for 2013 so as to ensure the complete re-equipping of the formations and military units.

During the meeting, there was also discussion of international military co-operation, in particular the international conference on politico-military aspects of European security planned by the Ministry of Defence for 23 and 24 May 2013. The purpose of that conference is to provide a forum for an open discussion by military department heads of existing problems and to formulate proposals on a search for mutually acceptable solutions to the

problem of ensuring equal security in Europe. The Defence Minister and the leadership of the Russian Ministry of Defence will present their views on the problems of European security, with a focus on its military and military-technical aspects. Defence ministers from European countries along with the heads of international organizations – NATO, the European Union, the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the OSCE – have been invited to attend the conference. Authoritative representatives of the Russian and European expert community and academic circles will participate in the discussions in order to examine the full array of opinions.

The conference programme and material will be posted on the Russian Ministry of Defence website ([www.mil.ru](http://www.mil.ru)).

I thank you, Madam Chairperson, and ask that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.



**712th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 1/13  
VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS  
CHANGES IN THE CONTEXT OF THE ACCESSION  
OF MONGOLIA TO THE OSCE**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/12 on the accession of Mongolia to the OSCE,

Guided by FSC Decision No. 1/10 establishing a procedure for incorporating relevant FSC decisions into the Vienna Document,

Using the text of the Vienna Document 2011 as a basis for amendments and additions,

Decides to:

Update the list of participating States in paragraph (1) by adding “Mongolia” after “Monaco”;

Update the list of the Asian Partners for Co-operation in paragraph (156) by deleting “Mongolia”;

Complement the footnote to Annex I by adding after the last paragraph, which reads “As a consequence, ‘the zone of application for CSBMs’ as defined in this annex extends, as of the given dates, to the territories of the above-mentioned States.”, the following paragraph: “In accordance with Ministerial Council Decision No. 2/12, Mongolia became a participating State on 21 November 2012 on the understanding that the zone of application for CSBMs as defined in Annex I to the Vienna Document will not extend to Mongolia’s territory, unless the Ministerial Council determines otherwise, and in that regard, Vienna Document commitments that apply only to the zone of application will apply to any Mongolian forces in the zone but not to the territory of Mongolia”.

**712th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 718, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 2/13  
VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS  
UPDATING THE TITLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS INSTRUMENT  
FOR STANDARDIZED INTERNATIONAL REPORTING  
OF MILITARY EXPENDITURES**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Guided by FSC Decision No. 1/10, establishing a procedure for incorporating relevant FSC decisions into the Vienna Document, and by paragraphs 151 and 152 of the Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures,

Recalling Resolution A/RES/66/20 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations,

Taking the text of the Vienna Document 2011 as the basis for amendments and additions,

Decides to update Chapter II of the Vienna Document 2011 by replacing references to “United Nations ‘Instrument for Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures’ adopted on 12 December 1980” with “United Nations Report on Military Expenditures endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 December 2011”.

The pertinent paragraphs would read:

“(15.3) Information on previous expenditures

Participating States will report their defence expenditures of the preceding fiscal year (i.e., the most recent fiscal year for which figures are available) on the basis of the categories as set out in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 December 2011.

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1 Includes a correction to the alignments of the interpretative statement attached to the decision.

They will provide, in addition, any appropriate clarification, if necessary, as to possible discrepancies between expenditures and previously reported budgets, and information on the relation of the military budget to the gross national product (GNP) as a percentage.

- (15.2.5) – The procurement of major equipment and major military construction programmes on the basis of the categories as set out in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures mentioned in paragraph 15.3, either ongoing or starting in the forthcoming years, if planned, and the implications of such projects, accompanied by explanations, where appropriate;
- (15.4.1.1) – Budget figures on the basis of the categories as set out in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures mentioned in paragraph 15.3;
- (15.4.2.1) – The best estimates itemizing defence expenditures on the basis of the categories as set out in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures mentioned in paragraph 15.3;”.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER  
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE  
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND  
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of the Netherlands (also on behalf of Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Finland, France, United Kingdom, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the Czech Republic):

“Madam Chairperson,

The Netherlands, also on behalf of Germany, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Croatia, Denmark, Spain, Estonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Finland, France, United Kingdom, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, would like to make the following interpretative statement on the FSC decision on updating the title of the United Nations Instrument for Standardized International Reporting of Military Expenditures.

We welcome the decision to update Chapter II of the Vienna Document 2011 by using the correct references to the ‘United Nations Report on Military Expenditures endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 December 2011’,

Noting with regret that no consensus could be reached on using the standardized reporting form, which builds upon the conviction that transparency in military matters for a regional security organization as the OSCE is an essential element for building a climate of trust and confidence between States and that a better flow of objective information on military matters can help to relieve international tension and is therefore an important contribution to conflict prevention,

We declare to use the standardized reporting form<sup>2</sup> as set out in the United Nations Report on Military Expenditures, endorsed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 December 2011, with immediate effect if possible, but no later than 1 January 2014.

We call upon all other participating States to subscribe to this approach.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.”

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1 Includes a correction to the alignments.

2 Or any other bespoke format developed for the purpose of similar reporting on military expenditures if this provides comparable or more transparency than the UN standardized reporting form. A UN “nil” report should only be used when participating States have no military expenditures.