

**Chairmanship: Monaco**

**767th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 22 October 2014

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 11.25 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador C. Giordan

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: ATT – THE OSCE’S ROLE IN IMPLEMENTATION

*Presentation on “ATT – The Road towards Effective Implementation”, by Mr. J. Bylica, Principal Adviser and Special Envoy for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament, European External Action Service: Chairperson, Mr. J. Bylica (FSC.DEL/176/14 OSCE+), Spain (Annex 1), Germany (Annex 2), Austria (Annex 3), Poland (Annex 4), Finland, Russian Federation*

Agenda item 2: DECISION ON THE DATES AND VENUE OF THE TWENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL IMPLEMENTATION ASSESSMENT MEETING

Chairperson, Azerbaijan

The decision was not adopted.

Agenda item 3: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/178/14), Italy-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 country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in

alignment) (FSC.DEL/177/14), United States of America, Canada,  
Russian Federation

- (b) *Seminar on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, held in Yerevan on 16 and 17 October 2014: Armenia, FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Germany)*

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

*OSCE-ODIHR event on the civil and political rights of armed forces personnel, to be held in Vienna on 23 October 2014: Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 29 October 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**767th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 773, Agenda item 1

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN**

Mr. Chairperson,

It gives me particular satisfaction to thank Ambassador Jacek Bylica, Principal Adviser and Special Envoy for Non-Proliferation and Disarmament of the European External Action Service (EEAS), for his informative presentation on the Arms Trade Treaty and the elements relating to its effective application.

Repeating what our delegation said on the occasion of the security dialogue on 11 June 2014, devoted to considering, among other matters, the implications of the implementation of the Treaty, I should like to reiterate my country's firm belief that, when it enters into force on 24 December 2014, the Treaty will serve its purpose of ensuring more responsibility and transparency in international arms transfers.

Spain has devoted considerable efforts and resources to seeking to ensure the early entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty and its effective implementation and universalization. We therefore welcome the fact that, by 25 September 2014, the 50 ratifications necessary to allow its entry into force after 90 days had been obtained.

Mr. Chairperson,

The historic importance of the Arms Trade Treaty lies in the fact that this is the first comprehensive effort to regulate trade in conventional weapons, and the first global negotiation that has succeeded in connecting respect for international humanitarian law and human rights to arms transfers, creating a common legal framework of responsibility and accountability at the highest level and giving the Treaty tremendous potential for protection. The Treaty is the first legally binding international agreement in the world in this area.

The objective of the Treaty may be considered to be, as a desideratum, to ensure global security and to reduce human suffering, and it therefore has a universal vocation of protecting civilians from armed violence, whether in the context of an armed conflict or in other situations in which human security is threatened.

As I indicated at the outset, the goal of States was to draw up firm rules of worldwide application for responsible arms transfers; this implies, among other things, a further victory

for multilateralism vis-à-vis unilateralism. Moreover, a strengthening of the role and leadership of the United Nations in the protection of the civilian population affected by armed violence is backed up by the increasing participation of civil society and non-governmental organizations, which played an important part in the design of this important politico-military instrument.

Mr. Chairperson,

We are aware of the challenges that this Treaty poses for many countries and we are therefore making our experience in this field available to participating States, and are ready to co-operate with them to facilitate the Treaty's implementation. Following from this, I believe that the item should be a regular component of the security dialogues, particularly in the context of the deliberations of the Forum for Security Co-operation once the Treaty enters in to force in December 2014.

Mr. Chairperson,

I should be grateful if the text of this statement could be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you very much.



**767th Plenary Meeting**  
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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.

I also would like to welcome Ambassador Bylica and thank him for his inspiring statement, highlighting the EU's role in giving birth to the Arms Trade Treaty and promoting its goals. Let me briefly outline the German contribution to these efforts.

Disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation are key priorities for the German Government. As we know, conventional arms are at the root of armed violence in many parts of the world today. Controlling their flows is therefore an essential pillar of our preventive security policy.

Germany is a staunch supporter of the Arms Trade Treaty, which is the first global instrument in this field, negotiated under UN auspices in a decade. It is a true milestone, and we are proud of the result we have achieved together.

The Arms Trade Treaty will establish strong international norms, preventing irresponsible and illicit trade in conventional arms. It will also improve transparency and increase accountability in the international arms trade. We are committed to contributing to the Treaty's effective implementation.

We are convinced that the Arms Trade Treaty can make real progress only if it is fully implemented on a global scale. Universalization of the Treaty is key.

States Parties and signatories to the ATT have started informal consultations on the First Conference of States Parties. Following the first round in Mexico, on 8 and 9 September, Germany is looking forward to hosting the second round of informal consultations, which will be held in Berlin on 27 and 28 November under Mexican and German co-chairmanship.

For many countries, implementation of the Treaty's obligations represent a challenge. Germany is ready to assist those countries, notably:

- Through the UN Trust Facility UNSCAR that we helped to create last year, by contributing 600,000 euros. We intend to contribute a similar amount to it this year;

- Through joint projects with our EU Partners, like the EU-ATT outreach, which Germany is nationally co-financing through a contribution of 1.2 million euros;
- In future, we intend to support other States also on a bilateral basis.

Mr. Chairperson,

Not all the participating States have ratified or signed the Arms Trade Treaty. However, we believe that the goals of the Treaty are widely shared. Against this background, we see a role for the OSCE in promoting the ATT's principles and objectives and we are looking forward to exchanging views on that subject.

Thank you very much.

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



**767th Plenary Meeting**  
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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA**

Mr. Chairperson,  
Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, let me thank the FSC Chairperson for including the topic of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) in our Security Dialogue. We welcome Ambassador Bylica and thank him for his presentation.

For Austria, the ATT is a success story. The ATT creates binding standards for the international trade in conventional arms. Over many years of negotiations, compromises have been found that are acceptable to a vast majority of States, and we are looking forward to the entry into force of the ATT on 24 December of this year.

In the year 2000 already, the OSCE participating States committed themselves to combating illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including through effective export control. Austria welcomes the fact that the new emerging set of rules established by the ATT will extend these commitments. We look forward to exploring the possible role of the OSCE in promoting the ATT in order to secure its entry into force and to maximize its effectiveness.

We are aware that some participating States have concerns that the overall compromise reflected in the ATT leaves gaps that outweigh the benefits of signing and ratifying it. We hope that our discussions here and in other fora – some of them Vienna-based – will help to dispel these concerns in order to make the ATT a truly universal instrument.

Ladies and gentlemen,

From the outset, Austria was committed to the goal of developing an Arms Trade Treaty. Therefore, Austria organized a meeting with representatives from States and civil society here in the Hofburg already several years ago, which gave a fresh impetus to the developing negotiation process that led to the ATT.

Let me stress that Austria will remain firmly committed to the effective implementation of the ATT. Therefore, Austria has offered to host the permanent ATT Secretariat in Vienna, as have also our friends Switzerland and Trinidad and Tobago.

In our view, Vienna as an international hub for confidence- and security-building measures, arms control and non-proliferation offers the right environment and presence of expertise to contribute towards the effective implementation and universalization of the ATT. Vienna is host to many international organizations, some of which are linked to arms control and non-proliferation, such as the IAEA, the UNODC and of course also the OSCE. We also host numerous meetings linked to these issues, such as the 5+2 negotiations or the 3+3 Iran talks, as well as other fora and expert groups on transfer control issues, such as the Wassenaar Arrangement.

We have already circulated information on the financial and legal aspects of our offer (provision of office space rent-free for five years, and generous privileges and immunities). In this sense, we hope for your support and we would be pleased if you could bring this information to the attention of your capital.

Mr. Chairperson, I would ask you to attach this statement to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you very much for your attention.





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**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF POLAND**

Poland thanks Ambassador Jacek Bylica for his very comprehensive presentation on what the EU undertook to make it possible for the Arms Trade Treaty first to be successfully negotiated and then to be signed by the number of countries that finally would allow it to enter into force promptly.

Let me express our satisfaction that the ATT did not share the fate of the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty and is ready for its entry into force on 24 December. The ratification threshold has already been exceeded, and 53 countries have deposited their ratification instruments in New York. That sends a very positive message both for the conventional arms control process and for non-proliferation of conventional weapons.

Our domestic legislative process has entered the final stage. Signed by Poland in New York on 1 July 2013, the Treaty has already been approved by both houses of our parliament (Sejm and Senate). I am happy to inform you that the President of Poland, Bronisław Komorowski, signed the ratification instruments of the Treaty on 21 October; therefore, we will be able to deposit the ratification instruments in New York without delay.

We favourably assess the preparatory works prior to the Treaty's entry into force. The first round of informal consultations held in Mexico was very productive. A preliminary consensus was achieved on crucial matters: the right of the States Parties to take part in the review conferences, the rules of the sessions to be convened, the decision-making process and, last but not least, the establishment of the provisional secretariat.

We believe that November's meeting in Berlin will be able to achieve consensus on financial rules, a voluntary fund, the location of the permanent secretariat and on the further follow-up preparatory process.

The first ATT Conference of States Parties should be inclusive. We support issuing invitations to countries which have signed but have not ratified the ATT, international organizations, including regional ones, as well as NGOs and also think tanks. We do not support however issuing invitations to the countries that voted against adoption of the ATT. They – in our judgment – should be informed about the ATT implementation process in a regular manner through the official UN channels.

As far as the future structure and tasks of the ATT secretariat are concerned, we should aim at maximum effectiveness with a reasonable budget. We strongly believe that the future staff of the secretariat should be composed through an open and transparent recruitment process, taking into account the competences of the applying candidates. Geographic criteria – business as usual in the UN – are outdated in that regard.

The conventional arms control process has not enjoyed adoption of such a significant treaty as the ATT since the adoption of the CFE Treaty and the Vienna Document at the beginning of the 1990s. At that time, however, we had finalized the peaceful division after the cold war. Nowadays the situation as regards regional as well as global security is different and much more complex. Therefore we should do our utmost to avoid recklessly spoiling that achievement of international community.