

Chairmanship: Lithuania

724th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 17 July 2013

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador G. Čekuolis

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

Presentation on CFSP/CSDP: The contribution of the European Union to European security, by Mr. D. Lenoir, Acting Director of Crisis Management and Planning Directorate, European External Action Service (EEAS): Chairperson, Mr. D. Lenoir, United States of America, Germany, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Canada

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Financial contribution to the Montenegro Demilitarization Programme (MONDEM): Slovakia (Annex 1), Montenegro (Annex 2), FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary)*

(b) *Twentieth anniversary of the accession of Belarus to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, marked on 22 July 2013: Belarus (FSC.DEL/134/13 OSCE+)*

(c) *Release of the 2013 Report on Adherence to and Compliance with Arms Control, Nonproliferation, and Disarmament Agreements and Commitments: United States of America (Annex 3), Russian Federation*

(d) *Suggestions on improving aspects of inspection and evaluation visits in the Vienna Document 2011: Russian Federation (Annex 4), Chairperson, United States of America*

- (e) *Launch of the Green Paper on Defence (discussion paper): Ireland*

Agenda item 3: VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS DECISION ON THE
DURATION OF VISITS TO AIR BASES

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 4/13 (FSC.DEC/4/13) on the Vienna Document Plus decision on the duration of visits to air bases, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Austria

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *International Workshop on the Future of Conventional Arms Control in Europe: Goals, Ways and Means, held in Berlin on 2 and 3 July 2013: Germany (FSC.DEL/132/13 OSCE+)*
- (b) *Planned combined Austrian-Slovak event to visit air bases and military facilities or military formations in 2014: Austria (also on behalf of Slovakia) (Annex 5), Slovakia (Annex 6)*
- (c) *Donors' visit to Georgia, conducted on 11 and 12 July 2013: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary)*
- (d) *Informal meeting on the OSCE small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition project in Bosnia and Herzegovina, held on 16 July 2013: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary) (FSC.DEL/130/13 Restr.), Chairperson, Russian Federation*
- (e) *Inspection on troop combat readiness in the Russian Federation from 13 to 20 July 2013: Russian Federation (Annex 7), United States of America*
- (f) *Briefing on the mélange project in Kazakhstan: Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre, Kazakhstan*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 24 July 2013, at 11 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/730

17 July 2013

Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 730, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SLOVAKIA

Dear Mr. Chairperson,

I have the pleasure to inform you that, as stated already by the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic, Mr. Peter Burian, at the Second Annual Discussion on the Implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, Slovakia has allocated a financial contribution to the project for capacity development for demilitarization and safe storage of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and conventional ammunition in Montenegro – MONDEM. The amount of 15,000 euros will be used for SALW disposal and for the education and training of the technical staff of the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro.

I believe that this contribution will help in the implementation and realization of mutual goals and will further reduce the risks posed by the destabilizing accumulation of surplus armaments and ammunition, as well as enhancing stockpile management.

Mr. Chairperson, I kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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

FSC.JOUR/730

17 July 2013

Annex 2

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724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No.730, Agenda item 2(a)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF MONTENEGRO**

Mr. Chairperson,

Montenegro welcomes the Slovak Republic into the club of contributors to the MONDEM Programme, and we are very grateful for the country's significant and well-timed donation. Slovakia remains one of the most active supporters of the overall reform process of Montenegro, on its path toward full integration into the European and Euro-Atlantic structure.

It is very important to us that the necessary funds should be provided for continuation of the activities planned for the third phase of the MONDEM Programme project on the demilitarization of SALW and conventional ammunition.

I would like to take this opportunity also to mention the second MONDEM Programme project on reconstruction of the Brezovik depot. Earlier this year, the Minister of Defence of Montenegro, Milica Pejanović Đurišić, and the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany in Montenegro, H.E. Pius Fischer, officially opened the reconstructed facilities of the Brezovik ammunition depot. For the reconstruction of two buildings, in which we can store 800 tons of military weapons and ammunition, the Federal Republic of Germany donated 200,000 euros. The total value of this project is 2.7 million euros, and we are looking forward to its continuation.

In addition, let me express our readiness to share our knowledge and lessons learned with all our partners by making an active contribution to OSCE programmes of a similar nature. I am sure that our experiences in managing the MONDEM project, upgrading the standards for stockpile management and the procedures and techniques for demilitarization of armaments and ammunition, may be useful in the implementation of similar projects.

Once again, I thank the Slovak Republic, and I would like to express the hope that the donations for the MONDEM Programme through the OSCE will continue, enabling us to conclude this Programme successfully and close this important chapter in increasing the overall safety and stability in Montenegro and the region.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/730
17 July 2013
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 730, Agenda item 2(c)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Mr. Chairperson,

The 2013 Report on Adherence to and Compliance with Arms Control, Nonproliferation, and Disarmament Agreements and Commitments was transmitted to the US Congress on 9 July 2013. This report is also known as the Compliance Report.

The Compliance Report assesses the adherence by the United States and other nations to obligations undertaken in arms control, non-proliferation, and disarmament agreements and commitments to which the United States is a participating State. The Compliance Report is required by US law to be transmitted to Congress and reflects the importance the United States attaches to compliance in these areas. Congress attaches great importance to the submission of these types of reports as part of its legislative business and oversight.

This edition of the Compliance Report primarily reflects activities that occurred in 2012. Unless otherwise noted, issues that first came to light after that period will be addressed in the next Report. The Report addresses the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC), Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty (INF), the Vienna Document 2011 on Confidence- and Security-Building Measures (VD 11), the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), the Hague Code of Conduct Against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCOC), the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Moratoria on Nuclear Testing, and the Treaty on Open Skies.

The Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), and the New START Treaty are addressed in separate reports – the CWC Condition 10(C) Report, the CFE Condition 5(C) Report, and the New START Implementation Report, which were submitted to Congress in January 2013 and are incorporated by reference into this Report, and can be obtained at <http://www.state.gov/t/avc/rls/rpt/2013/index.htm>.

I respectfully request that this announcement be appended to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/730

17 July 2013

Annex 4

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No.730, Agenda item 2(d)

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

Mr. Chairperson,

As my distinguished colleagues will probably recall, some matters were raised in our statement at the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting regarding the implementation of the Vienna Document 2011. As a result, a number of delegations have shown an interest in this topic and asked us to make our preliminary ideas more specific. This is what prompted us to return to this discussion today.

Russia believes the Vienna Document is an effective tool for building confidence in the military sphere, which was confirmed by the leadership of our armed forces at the Conference on Military and Political Aspects of European Security in Moscow in May this year. There is also no denying that it needs further improvement. However, at the present stage, the pace and depth of this process are constrained by a number of objective factors, of which we have informed our colleagues on many occasions.

Under these conditions, it seems reasonable to concentrate on those areas of our work in which there is a real possibility of moving forward, that is, the improvement of our inspection activities. I remind you that this relates to increasing the numerical strength of the inspection and evaluation teams as well as the duration of the inspections and evaluation visits. Specifically, we believe the possibility should be considered of increasing the inspection teams (paragraph 91 of the Vienna Document 2011) and evaluation teams (paragraph 124) by one to two persons (to five to six inspectors and four to five evaluation team members, respectively, including interpreters). This would also increase the number of States participating in an inspection and in an evaluation visit (to four to five). In this case, the evaluation team could be divided into two subteams. We also consider it expedient to increase the duration of an inspection (paragraph 90) to 72 hours, and that of an evaluation visit (paragraph 126) to two working days with a total duration of up to 24 hours (that is, up to 12 hours each day). Finally, we would consider it reasonable to increase the period during which new types of major weapon and equipment systems must be demonstrated (paragraph 31) to five years after the start of deployment.

It is unlikely that anyone here doubts that such measures would increase the effectiveness of the inspection activity and create more favourable working conditions for the

verification personnel (at present, for example, it is by no means always possible to carry out the activity to a high standard in a large area in the time allocated in the Vienna Document 2011). The only argument against our proposal, as we understand it, are the considerations of a financial nature expressed by some participating States.

We can understand these arguments at a time of a general worsening of the economic situation in Europe and beyond its borders. Nevertheless we propose once again that a comparison be made of all the costs and benefits of adopting our proposals. We emphasize that from a financial point of view we consider all the changes I have mentioned as well as the proposal already made by our distinguished partners to reduce the duration of the visits to air bases to be a single “package”.

Thus, on one side of the scales we put the costs, that is, the financial expenses, and we assess the amount. According to our calculations, if the Russian proposals were to be adopted, the costs of carrying out one inspection would increase by approximately 1,000 euros, and the costs of one evaluation visit would increase by a far smaller amount. Thus, each participating State would be required to pay on average a maximum additional amount of a few thousand euros a year. To put it frankly, these amounts are not astronomical.

Now let us go to the other side of the scales and see how we can offset these costs. First of all, by the proposed reduction in the duration of the visits to air bases and the increase in the period during which new types of major weapon and equipment systems must be demonstrated. Here the potential for savings is obvious, since a minimum of 56 foreign representatives may participate in these events.

Secondly, if our proposals were to be adopted, the old quarrels about the procedure for inspections and visits and also the strength of the inspection teams could be resolved. Thus, if the duration of the inspections were to be increased to 72 hours, there would no longer be any need to argue about the start time. If the number of verification personnel were to be increased, it would be possible to ensure the full participation of interpreters in their work, thus putting an end to the pointless argument about their status. Nor would there be any problems dividing the evaluation team into two if its size were increased to five persons, which would enable it to carry out its work more effectively.

Thirdly and lastly, the Forum for Security Co-operation would take a small but very concrete step towards increasing predictability in the military field in the OSCE area, thus fulfilling its mandate.

We trust that the participating States will analyse our ideas once again and admit that the benefits of adopting them outweigh the costs.

For the time being, we shall not put forward any new Vienna Document Plus draft decisions on the above-mentioned matters. We should first like to hold a conceptual discussion round with the aim of finding the lowest common denominator on some of the numerical parameters. We trust that our distinguished partners will participate in this discussion in an enthusiastic and constructive manner.

I should like to state frankly that we shall judge the extent of real willingness on the part of our colleagues to strengthen trust and openness, including in the run-up to the Ministerial Council meeting in Kyiv, by the response to our ideas.

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



724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 730, Agenda item 4(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRIA
(ALSO ON BEHALF OF SLOVAKIA)**

Mr. Chairperson,
Excellencies,
Ladies and gentlemen,

Austria and Slovakia would like to draw the attention of the distinguished delegations to a planned visit to air bases and military facilities or military formations in the year 2014. This activity, under Chapter IV of the VD 11, will be an Austrian and Slovak combined event and is planned for the week from 8 to 12 September 2014 (on 8 and 9 September in Austria and from 10 to 12 September in Slovakia). A notification was distributed through the Communications Network with the reference number CBM/AT/13/0019/F45/O on 26 June 2013.

Austria will present the Army Branches School at the military training area of Bruckneudorf on the first day, and on the second day the airbase at Zeltweg. After the visit to the air base, the participants will be transported by Austrian military aircraft to Slovakia, where this combined event will continue.

On the territory of Slovakia, the object of the combined activity will be two units:

- NBC Battalion of the Land Forces in Rožňava; and
- Tactical Wing in Sliač.

Furthermore, more detailed information about the invitation to the activity will be distributed via the relevant notification formats, in accordance with the provisions of the Vienna Document 2011.

Mr. Chairperson,

May I ask you to attach the written form of this announcement to the journal of today's meeting.



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
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Annex 6

Original: ENGLISH

724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 730, Agenda item 4(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SLOVAKIA

Mr. Chairperson,

Further to the statement of the distinguished representative of Austria, on the planned combined Austrian–Slovak event to visit air bases and military facilities or military formations in the year 2014, I would like to provide the distinguished delegations with one additional item of information.

In accordance with the Memorandum of Co-operation among the Ministries of Defence of the Czech Republic, Hungary, the Republic of Poland and the Slovak Republic, regarding the implementation of CSBMs, as stipulated in Chapter IV of VD 2011, about which we have already provided information during the AIAM 2013, our partners – co-signers of the Memorandum from the so-called Visegrad group countries – were invited to participate in the combined Austrian–Slovak event to demonstrate their own new types of major weapon and equipment systems, during the Slovak part of the activity. As already presented, the Memorandum is open-ended and can be extended to other interested OSCE participating States. Such a step would also make it possible to use the event for demonstrations of countries' new types of major weapon and equipment systems.

We believe that this combined event, with possible extended participation, might serve as another positive example of a way to maximize the synergy effect of the practicality and implementation aspects of the VD 2011, while taking into account the current financial austerity in the military budgets of many OSCE participating States.

Mr. Chairperson,

I would kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of this meeting.



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

FSC.JOUR/730

17 July 2013

Annex 7

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No.730, Agenda item 4(e)

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

Mr. Chairperson,

Allow me on behalf of the senior officials of the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation to briefly inform our distinguished colleagues about the combat-readiness inspection of troops in the east of the country being carried out at the behest of the President of the Russian Federation and about the steps being taken by Russia as a sign of goodwill to ensure the openness of this exercise.

The inspection is taking place from 13 to 20 July of this year. Commands, formations and units from the Central and Eastern Military Districts, the Pacific Fleet as well as long-range and military transport aviation units of the Russian Air Force are involved in this exercise.

The main purpose of the exercises is to test the subunits' readiness for carrying out their assigned tasks and also to assess the level of training of the troops, technical readiness and the equipping of the formations and units with weapons and military equipment.

As part of the inspection, troops from the two districts carried out exercises to prepare the commands, formations and units for their assigned tasks and completed route marches over many kilometres to unfamiliar training grounds located a considerable distance from their permanent bases, where they are carrying out bilateral tactical exercises involving live firing.

In addition, during the combat-readiness inspection, the mobility of the formations was checked, as was their ability to carry out an operational deployment over a distance of more than 3,000 kilometres by rail and by sea and also by means of aircraft from the military transport aviation forces.

In total, up to 160,000 military personnel, around 1,000 tanks and armoured combat vehicles, 130 aircraft and helicopters from the long-range, fighter, bomber and military transport aviation forces as well as 70 ships and vessels of the Navy are involved in the combat-readiness inspection of the troops.

The inspection is proceeding according to plan, without any serious problems, and any irregularities or particular deficiencies identified in terms of combat readiness will be taken into account in the subsequent activities of the armed forces.

The exercises are being conducted in strict accordance with previously adopted commitments vis-à-vis other States and are not directed against anyone's interests.

In view of the considerable scale of the inspection, as soon as the order was received regarding the start of the exercise, the senior officials of the Russian Ministry of Defence took a number of steps to ensure maximum openness as regards the exercises to be conducted. This was done in order to avoid any misunderstanding on the part of our foreign partners.

Thus, on 12 July, four hours prior to the start of the inspection, on the orders of the Minister of Defence, all OSCE participating States were notified about this exercise (CBM/RU/13/0062/F41/O), although it does not in fact affect the zone of application for confidence- and security-building measures under the Vienna Document, and the next day, in the light of the involvement of troops from the Central Military District, the information regarding the number of personnel involved in the inspection was clarified (CBM/RU/13/0063/F41/O).

Russia's neighbours in the Far East were also informed in good time. Additional information was provided to our friends in the People's Republic of China, since there are special agreements between China and Russia regarding military activities in the border region – both countries are parties to the Shanghai agreement on confidence-building measures in the border area. However, no military activities covered by that agreement are taking place within 100 kilometres of the Russian-Chinese border in the course of the inspection.

On Sunday, 14 July, the Deputy Minister of Defence, Anatoly Antonov, held a meeting with the foreign military attachés accredited in Moscow, during which the point of the exercises was explained. In particular, it was stressed that all the activities carried out by the Russian armed forces, including the present inspection, are not an attempt at flexing its muscles. This is all part of painstaking, carefully considered work to improve the combat readiness of the armed forces. The military attachés were asked to use the information they had received to provide an objective briefing for the senior officials of the defence ministries of the countries they represent. It was also confirmed that the Main Directorate for International Military Co-operation of the Russian Ministry of Defence was ready to provide all the information necessary to keep our foreign colleagues properly and correctly briefed.

On 15 July, following a teleconference devoted to the start of the second stage of the inspection, the Head of the Main Directorate for International Military Co-operation, Sergey Koshelev, held a rapid-fire briefing for journalists on questions regarding the provision of information to our foreign partners on this exercise.

Detailed information on the inspection process is being sent to the media, several television crews are working in the area where the exercises are being conducted, and news reports on this subject are constantly appearing on the Ministry of Defence's website (there are already around 30 reports).

We believe all these measures carried out on a voluntary basis make it possible to maintain a high level of trust with our partners. The information received by the Ministry of Defence as regards our partners' reactions shows an understanding on their part for what our armed forces are doing today.

The Russian Ministry of Defence intends to continue to do everything possible to increase the degree of openness in the processes of reforming and developing the armed forces.

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



724th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 730, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 4/13
Vienna Document Plus
DURATION OF VISITS TO AIR BASES**

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,

Attaching great importance to the effective implementation of existing confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs),

Seeking to improve the implementation of these measures in the light of practical experience gained,

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

Decides to amend paragraph 26 and 27 of Chapter IV, Visits to Air Bases, by replacing in paragraph 26 “for a minimum of” with “up to” and in paragraph 27 add after routine activities “of a working day”.

The pertinent paragraphs would read:

(26) The visit to the air base will last up to 24 hours.

(27) In the course of the visit, the visitors will be given a briefing on the purpose and functions of the air base and on its current activities, including appropriate information on the air force structure and operations so as to explain the specific role and subordination of the air base. The State arranging the visit will provide the visitors with the opportunity to viewing routine activities of a working day at the air base during the visit.