



Chairmanship: Georgia

585th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 15 July 2009

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.05 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. I. Giorgadze

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

None

Agenda item 2: SECURITY DIALOGUE

Presentation by General Karl Engelbrektson (Swedish armed forces) and Ms. Belén Caballud Hernando (Spanish armed forces) on Women and the Armed Forces: Recruitment, Promotion and Retention: Chairperson, Representative of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, Mr. K. Engelbrektson, Ms. B. Caballud Hernando (FSC.DEL/138/09 OSCE+), Sweden-European Union (with the candidate countries Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia; as well as the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine, in alignment) (Annex 1), Georgia, Greece (Annex 2), Cyprus, Russian Federation, United States of America, Azerbaijan, United Kingdom, FSC Co-ordinator on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Austria)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Conduct of the military exercise “Caucasus 2009”, held from 29 June to 6 July 2009: Russian Federation, Chairperson, Georgia*

- (b) *Summit of the G8, held in L'Aquila, Italy, from 8 to 10 July 2009*: Italy, United States of America
- (c) *Matters of protocol*: Germany, Chairperson, United Kingdom
- (d) *Distribution of a statement marking International Small Arms Destruction Day (FSC.DEL/140/09 OSCE+) and on the new eighth edition of To Walk the Earth in Safety (FSC.DEL/141/09 OSCE+)*: United States of America

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 22 July 2009, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/591

15 July 2009

Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

585th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 591, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

The European Union (EU) warmly welcomes Brigadier General Karl Engelbrektsson from the Swedish armed forces, and Mrs. Belen Caballud from the Spanish Ministry of Defence to the FSC and thanks them for their interesting presentations on “Women and the Armed Forces: Recruitment, Promotion and Retention”. Adopted in October 2000, UN Security Council resolution 1325, was the first Security Council resolution to address the impact of armed conflict on women. It reinforces previous international and regional legal commitments and conventions relevant to women, peace and security and establishes a series of new principles. UNSCR 1325 calls for increased involvement of women, at all decision-making levels, in conflict prevention, crisis management and post conflict reconstruction. UNSCR 1325 clearly identifies women as important actors in peace-building and conflict mediation.

We also recall the OSCE Ministerial Council Decision in 2005 to implement the UNSCR 1325 (2000), “Women, Peace and Security” in all OSCE dimensions. We furthermore remind participating States of the OSCE Action Plan for Gender Equality.

The European Union has undertaken to promote the role of women in peace building and to enhance the implementation of United Nations resolutions in its external actions in that area.

Finally, the EU attaches great importance to the “Handbook on Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms of Armed Forces Personnel”, which explores different models and good practices regarding women’s participation in the armed forces.

The candidate countries Turkey, Croatia and former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia, the European Free Trade Association countries and members of the European Economic Area Iceland and Norway, as well as Ukraine, the Republic of Moldova, Armenia and Georgia align themselves with this statement.

* Croatia and Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.



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15 July 2009

Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

585th Plenary Meeting

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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GREECE

On behalf of the Greek OSCE Chairmanship I would like to warmly thank our two speakers for their very important, informative presentations on “Women and the Armed Forces”. Greece, from its part, of course fully aligns itself with the EU statement and underlines the importance of the OSCE comprehensive concept of security in promoting gender equality in the armed forces.

The distinguished representative of the ODIHR referred to the OSCE Code of Conduct and its importance. For technical reasons we did not align ourselves with the interpretative statement made by Denmark, also on behalf of Germany, Canada, Estonia, Finland, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, the Netherlands, Portugal, Slovakia, Sweden, Switzerland and the Czech Republic, in the context of the adoption of Decision No. 2/09 on the technical update of the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct, on the 1 April of this year. Nevertheless, we would like to underline that we fully support this interpretative statement and our replies to gender-related questions in the Questionnaire on the Code of Conduct, were aimed at following the guidelines expressed in Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/04 and the 2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality, as well as Ministerial Council Decision No. 14/05 on women in conflict prevention.