



Austrian Chairmanship

431st PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 6 October 2004

Opened: 10.10 a.m.

Closed: 1.10 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. H.-W. Ehrlich

3. Subjects discussed - Statements - Decisions:

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

None

Agenda item 2: SECURITY DIALOGUE

(a) *The Multinational Stand-by High Readiness Brigade for UN Operations (SHIRBRIG): presentation by the Austrian Chairman of SHIRBRIG, General Günther Greindl: Chairperson, General Günther Greindl, Russian Federation, Armenia*

(b) *Proposal for a draft decision on the chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) threat: presentation by the Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends of the Chair on Combating Terrorism, Ambassador Krister Bringeus: Ambassador Krister Bringeus, Chairperson, Russian Federation, Finland, Armenia, Switzerland, Belarus, France, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Turkey, Austria*

Agenda item 3: SALW ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN BELARUS AND
TAJIKISTAN: UPDATE ON THE STATE OF PLAY BY THE
FSC CO-ORDINATOR FOR SALW PROJECTS

FSC Co-ordinator for SALW Projects (Hungary) (FSC.DEL/430/04 Restr.),
Belarus, Tajikistan, United Kingdom, France, Chairperson

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Report by the Chairman of the Communications Group*: Representative of the Chairman of the Communications Group, Chairperson, Germany (Annex), Russian Federation, Canada
- (b) *Follow-up to the Special FSC Meeting on implementing the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition*: Chairperson
- (c) *Joint PC/FSC Troika Meeting, held on 5 October 2004*: Chairperson, United Kingdom, Belgium, Switzerland, Ukraine
- (d) *Provisional schedule of the OSCE SALW and Conventional Ammunition assessment visits*: Chairperson, Conflict Prevention Centre
- (e) *OSCE/UNECE Expert Meeting on a Joint Early Warning Mechanism, to be held in Vienna, on 5 November 2004*: Chairperson
- (f) *Submission of a draft United Nations resolution on stockpiles of conventional ammunition*: Bulgaria

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 13 October 2004, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/437

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Annex

ENGLISH

Original: GERMAN

431st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 437, Agenda item 4(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GERMANY

Mr. Chairman,

This delegation would already like to take this opportunity to express its satisfaction that after lengthy and complex negotiations the decision FSC.DD/04/04 can be adopted by the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC) next week and that in this way a compromise has been found in this important matter, which we hope will be acceptable for everyone.

We very much welcome the fact that as a result of this the necessary technical modernization of the Communications Network can take place so early that the funds earmarked in the 2004 budget for that purpose can be used in good time.

Allow me, however, to note today that this delegation did not see the need for a separate FSC decision in the past and does not see the need today. We remain of the opinion that FSC Decision No. 5/99 gives the Communications Group the mandate and competence to take technical decisions of that kind independently.

With regard to the actual question, i.e., the modernization of the network, however, we not only have no reservations but also offer our unqualified support. This delegation therefore agrees to the compromise and looks forward to the adoption of the decision by the FSC on the basis of the recommendation of the Communications Group. Permit me, however, to note that this delegation sees no precedence here for future cases when comparable technical questions and decisions are involved.

Mr. Chairman,

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