

FSC.JOUR/775 5 November 2014

Original: ENGLISH

Chairmanship: Monaco

769th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 5 November 2014

Opened: 10 a.m.
Suspended: 1 p.m.
Resumed: 3 p.m.
Closed: 3.10 p.m.

- 2. <u>Chairperson</u>: Ambassador C. Giordan
- 3. <u>Subjects discussed Statements Decisions/documents adopted:</u>

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

- Presentation on the follow-up on the 2014 OSCE Mediterranean Conference (a) by H.E. Ambassador G. Batjargal, Permanent Representative of Mongolia to the OSCE: Chairperson, Monaco, Mongolia, Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; 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 Andorra, Armenia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/188/14), Switzerland (FSC.DEL/187/14 OSCE+), Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons (Spain) (also on behalf of the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America)), Algeria (Partner for Co-operation), Egypt (Partner for Co-operation), Morocco (Partner for Co-operation) (FSC.DEL/191/14 OSCE+)
- (b) Presentation on the Dayton Peace Accords by Major General M. Torres,
 Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of
 Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords: Chairperson, Personal
 Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of
 the Dayton Peace Accords (CIO.GAL/198/14 OSCE+), Italy-European Union

(with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; 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 Andorra, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/189/14), Croatia (also on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia) (Annex 1), Switzerland (Annex 2), United States of America, France, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a) Situation in and around Ukraine: Ukraine, Italy-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland 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/190/14), United States of America, Russian Federation, Germany, Switzerland, Canada, Austria, Greece
- (b) Financial contribution to OSCE projects in Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan: United States of America (Annex 3)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) Presentation of the request from the delegation of Azerbaijan for the Security Dialogue to be held on 12 November 2014: Chairperson
- (b) View of the Chairmanship on the context surrounding the discussions on the way to the Basel Ministerial Council meeting, more specifically, concerning the draft Ministerial Council decisions: Chairperson

4. <u>Next meeting</u>:

Wednesday, 12 November 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



FSC.JOUR/775 5 November 2014 Annex 1

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FSC Journal No. 775, Agenda item 1(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CROATIA (ALSO ON BEHALF OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO AND SERBIA)

Mr. Chairperson,

In my capacity as Representative of the Republic of Croatia, the Chair of the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control in accordance with Article IV, Annex 1-B to the Dayton Agreement, I have the pleasure to deliver the following joint statement on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Croatia – the Parties to the Agreement.

We warmly welcome Major General Michele Torres to the FSC, and thank him both for his long term, efficient and dedicated engagement with the Agreement and for his detailed presentation today. In his role of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords, he was instrumental in facilitating the transfer of ownership of the Agreement to the Parties, which will be finalized at the Basel Ministerial Council.

This important outcome is result of the consistent efforts and political will of the Parties to the Agreement who are dedicated to continue with its efficient implementation. The Agreement remains an important tool for strengthening stability, trust, confidence and security in our region in the aftermath of the horrible war. It is our firm belief that success of the Agreement in terms of arms control and CSBMs offers a potential model to be followed in other subregions in the Euro-Atlantic area. Therefore, we are ready to share our experience with all interested countries within the OSCE region and beyond, where security and stability could benefit from good practices and lessons learned during this process.

As Major General Torres once said, the full ownership of the Agreement by the Dayton Parties is not a signal for the international community to disengage. This ownership transfer is offering the new model of engagement. Therefore, we look forward to the adoption of the decision by the Permanent Council of the OSCE on the continuation of the OSCE support to the Parties of the Agreement.

In this regard, the Parties welcome foreseen close co-operation with the CPC and its further support to the implementation of the Agreement, including the assistance in inviting the OSCE guest observers.

In conclusion, the Parties to the Agreement wish to express once again their sincere gratitude to Major General Torres and his team for their effort and personal commitment to bring this complex process of transfer of ownership to a successful conclusion.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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FSC Journal No. 775, Agenda item 1(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND

Mr. Chairperson, Excellencies, Generals, Ladies and gentlemen,

The Swiss Chairmanship welcomes Major General Michele Torres, Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex 1-B of the Dayton Peace Accords and thanks him for his presentation.

The Swiss OSCE Chairmanship fully supports the transition process towards the ownership of the Parties to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, Article IV, Annex 1-B, General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. A smooth transition towards a successful ownership by the end of the year 2014 is one of the goals of the Chairmanship.

The Dayton Article IV Agreement has been – and remains – highly relevant for stability in the subregion, in the entire region and last but not least for the OSCE area. The Parties demonstrated their continuous political will to fully comply with all aspects of the process established under this arms control agreement. The Chairmanship would like to commend the Parties for fulfilling their obligations with responsibility, determination and professionalism, and for implementing the agreement in a positive spirit of co-operation, trust and confidence.

The Dayton Peace Accords were drafted also as a bridge between the wider European region and the countries of South-Eastern Europe. The implementation of the arms control part of the Dayton Peace Accord was the most ambitious and difficult task to be achieved. The successful implementation of the Article IV Agreement demonstrates that regional arms control agreements are more valid than ever. I would like to take this opportunity to draw some lessons for other and further arms control regimes.

One of the reasons of the success of this arms control regime is that the Parties and the entities directly concerned were fully involved from the very beginning in this process, thus taking part in shaping the region's future. The fundamental lesson learned is that no arms control regime could be implemented without the commitment of all actors involved, which is a prerequisite for any arms control regime in any part of the world.

Another reason was that this arms control agreement encompasses a comprehensive approach, not only verification activities, but also other transparency measures, exchange of a wide range of information on doctrine, budgeting of armed forces, storage sites, and finally common exercises between all the Parties.

It is also important to stress that another main factor for success was the fact that this arms control agreement was one of the components of broader efforts for peace and stabilization, including the establishment of viable economy, disarmament and reconstruction programmes, the reform of the security sector towards the establishment of good governance and respect of the rule of law.

The Chairmanship would like to take today's opportunity to express its appreciations to Major General Michele Torres, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV, and his dedicated team, for their tireless efforts and excellent co-operation with the Parties in order to ensure the successful ownership of the Parties. Our thanks go also to his predecessors for their effective contributions to the implementation of the Dayton Article IV Agreement, keeping the spirit of confidence-building and co-operation.

The Chairmanship would also like to express its appreciation to the Contact Group countries for their continual political support and their backing for the process of transfer of ownership. In addition, we thank the Contact Group countries for their active participation in the work of respective bodies for the implementation of the Dayton Article IV Agreement.

Tomorrow, the Permanent Council will adopt the decision on the transfer of ownership to the Parties to the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control, Article IV, Annex 1-B, General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina. After the adoption, the Chairmanship will circulate a short but crispy draft ministerial declaration on the transfer of ownership, taking the elements of the PC decision suitable for a ministerial document.

Finally, as Major General Torres already informed, the Chairmanship would like to confirm that the ceremony of signature will take place during the first day of the Ministerial Council in Basel.

Thank you for your attention. Switzerland kindly requests the Chair to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



FSC.JOUR/775 5 November 2014 Annex 3

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769th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 775, Agenda item 2(b)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Mr. Chairperson,

Since 1993, the United States has delivered over 2.5 billion US dollars in aid to help overcome threats from landmines and explosive remnants of war, and to destroy at-risk and unsecured weapons and munitions in over 90 countries around the world. The United States takes very seriously the commitments made by the participating States in the OSCE Documents on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA) and the threat that illicit trafficking in SALW and stockpiles of surplus ammunition can pose to the security to the OSCE region. In addition, last year's Ministerial Council Decision No. 8/13 contained a request for participating States to consider providing voluntary extrabudgetary contributions to OSCE SALW and SCA projects.

With this in mind, I am happy to announce that the United States has decided to donate 120,000 US dollars to the OSCE extrabudgetary project in Tajikistan, "Integrated co-operation on explosive hazards programme", Project Number 5500426.

The key objective of the programme is to provide targeted capacity development and technical assistance in reducing and responding to explosive hazards in the OSCE participating States in Central Asia and, on an extraterritorial basis, OSCE Partner for Co-operation Afghanistan.

Additionally, I would like announce the donation of 282,000 US dollars to the OSCE extrabudgetary project in "Upgrading Kyrgyz Republic's capabilities for storage of SALWCA in Buzhum, Gulcha and Koy-Tash", Project Number 5300431.

The key objectives of the project are destruction of the SALW and creation of national SALW demilitarization capacities; physical security and stockpile management training for the SALW and CA stockpile managers in the Ministry of Defence; and improvement of the national regulatory legal framework for SALW management.

I would like to thank Tajikistan, the OSCE Office in Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, the OSCE Centre in Bishkek, the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre, the FSC Support Section, and the other donors for their support of these projects.

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

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.