

**Chairmanship: Mongolia**

**778th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 4 February 2015

Opened: 10 a.m.

Closed: 1 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador G. Batjargal

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: WASSENAAR ARRANGEMENT –  
RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

*Presentation by Mr. P. Griffiths, Head of Secretariat, Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual-Use Goods and Technologies:*  
Chairperson, Mr. P. Griffiths (FSC.DEL/22/15 OSCE+), Latvia-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; as well as Armenia, Georgia and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/19/15), Spain (Annex 1), Switzerland (Annex 2), Belarus, Armenia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, United States of America, Russian Federation

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/18/15) (Annex 3), Latvia-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 and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/20/15), United States of America, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, Canada

(b) *Role of the Forum for Security Co-operation with regard to the situation in and around Ukraine*: Austria, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation

- (c) *Large-scale military exercise in Azerbaijan, commenced on 2 February 2015: Armenia (Annex 4), Azerbaijan (Annex 5)*
- (d) *Expressions of condolences on the executions of a Japanese and a Jordanian national by ISIL (Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant): Chairperson (Annex 6), Japan (Partner for Co-operation)*

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Distribution of the updated terms of reference for the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (United States of America) (FSC.DEL/16/15) and the FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Czech Republic) (FSC.DEL/17/15): Chairperson*
- (b) *Announcement of the names of the co-ordinators and rapporteurs for the twenty-fifth Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM), to be held on 3 and 4 March 2015: Chairperson*
- (c) *Circulation of documentation related to the twenty-fifth Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM), to be held on 3 and 4 March 2015: Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (d) *Invitation to an informal meeting on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security to be held on 17 February 2015 (FSC.GAL/10/15 OSCE+): FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Czech Republic)*
- (e) *Matters of protocol: Chairperson, Slovakia*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 11 February 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**778th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No.784, Agenda item 1

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

Mr. Chairperson,

Needless to say, Spain fully subscribes to the statement by the European Union but wishes to make the following statement in a national capacity.

I should like first of all particularly to thank Ambassador Griffiths, Head of the Wassenaar Arrangement Secretariat, for his informative presentation on the work that the Arrangement has been undertaking.

As you are aware, during 2015, Spain holds the Plenary Chair of the Wassenaar Arrangement. Convinced of the importance of this Chairmanship, together with the value attached by this delegation to the role of the Forum for Security Co-operation in matters relating to the effective control of arms and ammunition throughout their life cycle, I should like to make the following points:

1. The complementarity and synergy of efforts to regulate conventional arms, including small arms and light weapons, are among the greatest and most important added values that organizations such as the Wassenaar Arrangement and the OSCE can achieve through co-ordinated work.
2. While the Wassenaar Arrangement focuses its efforts on the establishment of an export control regime regulating legal trade, the OSCE focuses on combating those aspects that contribute to an undermining of security through the excessive and destabilizing accumulation of arms and ammunition or their illicit trafficking, which highlights the aforementioned complementarity.
3. In this regard, Spain maintains that an excessive and destabilizing accumulation and proliferation of arms and ammunition pose a serious threat to national, regional and international peace and security and to the social and economic development of many States. Spain firmly believes that illicit trafficking fuels armed conflicts, exacerbates violence and encourages crime and terrorism. Spain also wishes to express its grave concern at the close link between terrorism, organized crime and trafficking in drugs and precious minerals, on the one hand, and illicit trafficking in arms, mainly small arms and light weapons, on the other.

Mr. Chairperson,

In the context of what I have just said regarding the Wassenaar Arrangement, I should also like to emphasize the importance that Spain attaches to the Arms Trade Treaty as a first attempt by the international community at comprehensive regulation of trade in conventional arms.

From our perspective, we believe that the Arms Trade Treaty supplements the global efforts already inspired by United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) against the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons as well as their means of delivery, creating an international framework that encourages more responsible trade that does not undermine international peace and security. Spain therefore supports efforts in all forums to make it more universal.

The Wassenaar Arrangement has pioneered and developed a set of practices that may be of interest for the implementation of the requirements and objectives of the Arms Trade Treaty. The control lists of conventional arms and dual-use equipment that have been developed deserve special mention. These may serve as a point of reference for countries that lack the technical capacity to establish a system of export controls.

This is a challenge and an opportunity for both the Wassenaar Arrangement and the OSCE. To that end, within the framework of United Nations Security Council resolution 2117 (2013) on small arms and light weapons, Spain supports the important role that States Parties and regional and subregional organizations play in the new international context resulting from the entry into force of the Arms Trade Treaty. This does not make the role of the OSCE and the Wassenaar Arrangement superfluous; on the contrary, it makes them more necessary than ever as catalysts for full universalization and implementation.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairperson, Security Dialogues like today's highlight the importance of maintaining open channels of communication between the various international stakeholders that play a role in arms and ammunition. Information exchanges, the signing of co-operation agreements, and technical and legislative co-operation are some of the elements that we wish to see formalized in the common goal of strengthening security.

Thank you.



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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWITZERLAND**

Mr. Chairperson,

Switzerland commends the FSC Chairmanship, Mongolia, for choosing as topic the Wassenaar Arrangement and warmly welcomes our speaker Ambassador Philip Griffiths, Head of Secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement. We are grateful for his comprehensive and insightful presentation.

The Wassenaar Arrangement is a legally non-binding export regime whose parties establish lists of relevant items to be controlled and exchange information on the transfer of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies. It is the only export control regime for conventional armaments; Switzerland is one of its founding members. As a small and export-oriented country, Switzerland traditionally advocates free market and exchange. At the same time, it is fully committed to the principles of the Wassenaar Arrangement and to an efficient control regime which is co-ordinated at the international level.

In order to achieve this efficient control, like-mindedness among participants is essential, as consensus has to be reached on fundamental principles. In a time of growing tension and conflict, Switzerland believes that the strength of the Wassenaar Arrangement lies in its technical nature, which will enable it to continue to act efficiently and to focus on technical issues. Switzerland considers that taking pragmatic steps in order to move ahead constitutes an excellent way of ensuring the continued success of the Arrangement.

One good example of this has been the Swiss proposal for adapting the parameters for the export control of machine tools, which was adopted by the Plenary Meeting last year. We are also very pleased to see that in April this year there will be an experts' meeting between the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) and the Wassenaar Arrangement in order to enhance technical co-operation.

Mr. Chairperson,

Similarly, Switzerland recommends a pragmatic approach with regard to requests for new membership. Several countries have applied to join the Wassenaar Arrangement; we believe it is in the interest of the Arrangement and its members to extend the number of its Participating States. Extending the participation is also important for maintaining the

Arrangement relevance. Here again, a pragmatic approach will support the further development of the Arrangement.

Rapid technological development in the dual-use area necessitates the continuous review and adaptation of the relevant control instruments; to give two significant examples, a year ago the Wassenaar Arrangement extended the list of controlled dual-use goods by adding mobile and internet monitoring technology and UAVs (unmanned aerial vehicles).

In this context of rapid technological development it is necessary to strengthen co-operation and co-ordination between different regimes and the relevant international organizations dealing with security issues. The Wassenaar Arrangement has already co-operated on an ad hoc basis with the OSCE regarding matters dealt with by the Forum for Security Co-operation, for example, transfers of SALW through air transport. The benefits of enhanced co-operation and co-ordination should be subjected to recurrent evaluation.

Switzerland would welcome increased co-ordination in the field of the prevention of proliferation of small arms and light weapons and MANPADS; indeed, every institution can benefit from the expertise of the other institutions such as in the field of exchange of strategy papers, best practices, or expertise gained through the implementation of projects. This enhanced co-ordination can be pursued via the respective secretariats or through the initiative of Participating States belonging to both organizations.

Switzerland also sees more opportunities for co-operation on capacity-building in the area of the establishment of national export controls and in projects facilitating the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty. Other fields of co-operation might be those of end-user certification and the illegal transfer of conventional arms, since the OSCE already deals with conventional arms transfer. Both the Wassenaar Agreement and the Forum for Security Co-operation have valuable expertise in the implementation of national export controls and in safety in the transport and storage of weapons and ammunitions. Last but not least, the dissemination of knowledge to interested partner countries and OSCE Partners for Co-operation would constitute a significant contribution to security and stability in general.

Mr. Chairperson,

Switzerland trusts that the Wassenaar Arrangement will also continue to focus on pragmatic solutions and efficient work in the future; we will do our best to make this most useful control regime as concrete and practical as possible, with a growing number of members dedicated to the principle of voluntary exchange of information on the transfer of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies.

Thank you very much for your attention.

The Swiss Mission kindly requests that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.JOUR/784  
4 February 2015  
Annex 3

Original: ENGLISH

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**778th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No.784, Agenda item 2(a)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

Mr. Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

The Russian Federation is now in breach of such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as sovereign equality and respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, and fulfilment in good faith of obligations in international law.

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/784  
4 February 2015  
Annex 4

Original: ENGLISH

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**778th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No.784, Agenda item 2(c)

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF ARMENIA**

Mr. Chairperson,

We would like to invite the attention of the FSC to the large-scale military exercise of the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan started on 2 February 2015, in Azerbaijan.

The press service of the Ministry of Defence of Azerbaijan confirmed that 15,000 troops of the Armed Forces of Azerbaijan are taking part in the exercise.

Recalling paragraph 40.1.1 Chapter V of the Vienna Document 2011 (V. Prior Notification of Certain Military Activities (CMA)), the military activity will be subject to notification at least 42 days advance notice for CMA exceeding one of the following thresholds: 9,000 troops, 250 tanks, 500 ACVs, or 250 pieces of artillery.

In this regard, we would like to express our concern, that the exercise was not properly notified despite the fact, that it falls under the category of notifiable military activities.

We request Azerbaijani delegation to provide clarifications on this matter.

Thank you.





**778th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No.784, Agenda item 2(c)

## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AZERBAIJAN**

Mr. Chairperson,

As my country was referred to in the statement just delivered by the delegation of the Republic of Armenia, we would like to exercise our right of reply by conveying the following:

In accordance with information released by the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, we confirm that the Armed Forces of the Republic of Azerbaijan have started military exercises, upon the order of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief of the Republic. In this connection, I would suggest that the Armenian Delegation pay careful attention to the relevant press release of the MoD of the Republic of Azerbaijan, which states that these military exercises are being conducted on the orders of the Supreme Commander-in-Chief to assess the combat readiness of certain military units. Therefore, these particular military exercises are unplanned and were initiated unexpectedly.

Furthermore, the 15,000 personnel involved also include 5,000 from within the reservist mobilization process (which is a stand-alone element in these exercises) and more than 2,000 from the air defence forces. The overall involvement in the exercises of regular units of the land and air forces is thus below the thresholds subject to prior notification as defined in Chapter V, paragraph 40.1.1, of the Vienna Document 2011.

For the above-mentioned reasons, the Azerbaijani side has not notified the participating States of these military exercises.

Having said that, we reserve our right to return to this issue in one of the subsequent meetings of the FSC.

I ask that this statement be duly registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

FSC.JOUR/784  
4 February 2015  
Annex 6

Original: ENGLISH

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**778th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No.784, Agenda item 2(d)

## **STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON**

In the week that followed the previous FSC Plenary Meeting, the citizens of two of the OSCE Partner for Co-operation States were brutally murdered by the self-proclaimed “Islamic State” terrorist organization.

The FSC Chairmanship expresses its sincere condolences to delegations of Japan and Jordan and condemns this horrific and barbaric act.