



EUROPEAN UNION

OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation N°840 Vienna, 14 December 2016

EU Statement on Outcome of the Hamburg Ministerial Council

The European Union and its Member States would like express gratitude to the Portuguese FSC Chair for the professional leadership throughout the last trimester of this year, and especially in the run up to the Ministerial Council. We commend you, Ambassador, and your excellent team, for the tireless efforts to facilitate consensus on FSC-related MC documents. Your tremendous work resulted in reaching agreement on two substantial documents.

We welcome the agreement on the MC declaration celebrating the 20th anniversary of the Lisbon Framework for arms control and reaffirming enduring goals and values of this inspiring document. While we would have wished to see a stronger commitment to further strengthening the Vienna Document, we believe that the agreement on a text on CAC and CSBMs sends an important political signal and we should further build on this momentum here at the OSCE. In this regard, we welcome launching a structured dialogue on the current and future challenges and risks in the OSCE area, as we believe that this dialogue is relevant for CAC and its future. We remain committed to the full implementation of the existing commitments in the politico-military area, including the Vienna Document, the Treaty on Open Skies and the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe. Furthermore, given the changes in the security environment as well as technological developments in the military sphere, our work on the modernisation of our politico-military instruments in the framework of the OSCE must continue.

We appreciate the agreement on the MC declaration on SALW and SCA assistance projects, an important area of OSCE's contribution to the stability and security in the OSCE region. We see the declaration at the same time as an appreciation of the

work of OSCE executive structures in this area, as well as of the continuous generous contributions of pS to the assistance projects.

Despite the failure to agree on the MC decision on the FSC work in 2017, we remain committed to preserving and strengthening the OSCE politico-military toolbox. This includes full implementation and modernisation of the Vienna Document, as well as full implementation and strengthening relevant OSCE commitments and activities to combat the illicit trafficking and destabilising accumulation of SALW and SCA. In this context, we will continue promoting recent developments in the UN framework, including the women, peace and security agenda and the Arms Trade Treaty.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries ICELAND, LIECHTENSTEIN and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE, the REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, GEORGIA, ANDORRA and SAN MARINO align themselves with this statement.

* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.