

FSC Meeting, 18 May 2022

Any other business

ENGLISH only

STATEMENT BY THE CONFLICT PREVENTION CENTRE

Delivered by Mr. Shawn DeCaluwe, Chief, FSC Support Unit

on the **2022 OSCE-UNODA Scholarship for Peace and Security:**

Training programme on “Conflict Prevention through Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-proliferation in the OSCE Area”

Mr. Chairperson,

I should like to inform the participating States that the training programme on “Conflict Prevention and Resolution through Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation in the OSCE Area” – which is aimed at young professionals, in particular women – will commence on 23 May 2022 with the online course. We envisage holding the one-week in-person course in Vienna in Autumn. The programme is supported by the OSCE-UNODA Scholarship for Peace and Security.

This year we received more than 1200 applications. After a comprehensive selection process, 152 participants (85 per cent female and 15 per cent male) from 51 participating States and 11 OSCE Partners for Co-operation were short-listed for the eight-week online course. The participants come from various educational fields and have varying professional affiliations (e.g., governmental and non-governmental sectors).

The interactive online training will provide the participants with knowledge on politico-military issues, conflict prevention, arms control, and confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs). Moreover, it will increase their awareness and understanding of disarmament and non-proliferation issues in the OSCE area. Throughout the programme, the participants will look at the roles of various relevant organizations and arms control regimes. They will explore the links between disarmament, non-proliferation, development and gender. They will also become familiar with the efforts of the United Nations and the OSCE to prevent illicit trafficking of SALW and ammunition. During the programme, they will learn about terrorism, violent extremism, new technologies and modern warfare.

As we conduct the training programme for the fifth year, it continues to increase the representation of women and youth in the security sector. The project continues to contribute to equal opportunities for women to participate fully in the policy-making, planning and implementation processes related to arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation. Moreover, the training programme gives young professionals a good chance to build up their networks and increase their range of career opportunities. Since 2018, when the training programme was first launched, 398 young professionals (90% female) have graduated this course. Many of them have pursued their careers in the field (e.g. governmental sector, research, international organizations and NGOs).

Let me take this opportunity to thank the governments of Andorra, Germany, Finland, France, Ireland, Spain and the United States of America for their support for this year’s training programme.

I kindly ask the statement to be attached to the Journal of the Day.