



Chairmanship: Georgia

576th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 29 April 2009

Opened: 11.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.25 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Mr. P. Gaprindashvili

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

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT BY THE GEORGIAN
CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY
CO-OPERATION: ADDRESS BY THE DEPUTY MINISTER
OF DEFENCE OF GEORGIA, MR. GEORGE MUCHAIDZE

Chairperson, Deputy Minister of Defence of Georgia,
Czech Republic-European Union (with the candidate countries the former
Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey; the countries of the
Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Bosnia
and Herzegovina and Montenegro; the European Free Trade Association
countries Iceland and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as
well as Ukraine and Azerbaijan, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/93/09), France,
Greece, United States of America, United Kingdom, Armenia

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

(a) *Consultation exercise on private military and security companies*:
United Kingdom (Annex 1), Portugal (Annex 2), Germany

(b) *Provision of data in relation to the global exchange of military information*:
Ukraine (FSC.DEL/97/09 OSCE+), Chairperson

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Update by the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons (United Kingdom) (FSC.DEL/94/09), Belarus, Cyprus*
- (b) *Update by the FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition: FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Denmark) (FSC.DEL/96/09 OSCE+), Chairperson*
- (c) *Proposal to hold a heads of verification centres meeting in December 2009: Denmark*
- (d) *Annual exercise “Cooperative Longbow 09” and “Cooperative Lancer 09”, to be held in Georgia from 6 May to 1 June 2009: Spain (Annex 3), Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States of America, Kazakhstan*
- (e) *Matters of protocol: Chairperson*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 6 May 2009, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



576th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 582, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

1. On 24 April 2009 the United Kingdom launched a public consultation on a proposed policy to promote high standards of the private military and security company (PMSC) industry internationally. The aims of the policy are to promote high standards of conduct by PMSCs internationally, and to reduce the risk that the activities of PMSCs might give rise to human rights or humanitarian law concerns, assist internal repression, or provoke or prolong internal or regional tension.

2. We will be consulting on our preferred option, which consists of a three part package of:

- Working with the UK industry to promote high standards through a code of conduct agreed with and monitored by the Government;
- Using our status as a buyer to contract only those companies that they demonstrate that they operate to high standards; and
- An international approach to promote higher global standards, based on key elements of the UK approach.

3. We will work with the relevant UK trade association to devise a code of conduct to which all its members would adhere. The association would implement the code. We believe that security companies will find it in their commercial interests to adhere to the code, which will be agreed with and monitored by the Government. We will be asking that all companies bidding for British government contracts must undertake to follow regulatory, humanitarian and ethical standards consistent with the trade association's code of conduct, or can show adherence to other equivalent standards. PMSCs operate in a global environment and international co-operation is necessary to promote high standards. To this end, we will:

- Build on the initiative by the Swiss government and the International Committee of the Red Cross to create internationally agreed industry standards within two years; and
- Build a convention of states and key buyers that will be able to insist that PMSCs wishing to bid for future contracts will be required to adhere to the internationally

agreed standards. This will set a benchmark for private security procurement and practice, and help drive up standards globally.

4. The public consultation will close on 17 July 2009, and a full analysis of responses will be undertaken and published. Based on the responses received and evidence gathered during the consultation period, a final decision on the proposals will be taken and, if appropriate, proposals will be laid before Parliament. The consultation paper and a summary of responses will be made available, and will be accessible through www.fco.gov.uk.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, and we ask 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/582

29 April 2009

Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

576th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 582, Agenda item 2(a)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF PORTUGAL

Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to inform you that Portugal has associated itself to the Montreux Document on international obligations and best practices relating to private military and security companies that operate in armed conflicts.

This initiative is of particular interest to Portugal, because it will focus on a pressing and timely subject that lacks an integrated approach to the level of international humanitarian law and human rights.

The good practices recommended in the document of Montreux on private military and security companies which are addressed to States associated with the initiative, to States in which they operate and the States of the nationality of those companies, have an indisputable interest.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to request that this statement be appended to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.JOUR/582

29 April 2009

Annex 3

ENGLISH

Original: SPANISH

576th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 582, Agenda item 3(d)

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Mr. Chairperson,

In the spirit of the confidence- and security-building measures agreed upon within the OSCE, I should like to inform all the other participating States about the “Cooperative Longbow 09” and “Cooperative Lancer 09” exercises scheduled to take place between 6 May and 1 June in Georgia as part of the NATO Partnership for Peace Programme, the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative. They will be under the command of Lieutenant General Cayetano Miró Valls, Chief of the Allied Land Component Command in Madrid.

The planning for the “Cooperative Longbow 09” and “Cooperative Lancer 09” exercises began in the spring of 2008, the purpose being to improve interoperability between NATO and the Partnership for Peace countries.

Twenty nations will participate: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Moldova, Serbia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and the United States of America.

“Cooperative Longbow 09” is a multinational brigade-level command post exercise aimed at improving interoperability between NATO and the Partnership for Peace countries in crisis response operations. The scenario for the exercise is based on a fictitious United Nations mandated NATO-led crisis response operation. The exercise will take place in Tbilisi, Georgia, and will involve some 650 personnel.

“Cooperative Longbow 09” will be followed by “Cooperative Lancer 09”, which is designed to provide basic training in peace support operations at the battalion level and which will take place at the Vaziani barracks near Tbilisi, involving some 450 personnel.

Co-operation with Partnership for Peace countries is an integral part of the Alliance’s security policy, contributing the promotion of security and stability for the benefit of all.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.