



Chairmanship: Ireland

625th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 27 October 2010

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 10.25 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador E. O'Leary

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

Agenda item 1: GENERAL STATEMENTS

The United Kingdom's National Security Strategy and Strategic Defence and Security Review: United Kingdom (Annex)

Agenda item 2: SECURITY DIALOGUE

None

Agenda item 3: VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS DECISION ON TAKING
NATIONAL HOLIDAYS INTO ACCOUNT WHEN
PLANNING VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES

Chairperson

Decision: The Forum for Security Co-operation adopted Decision No. 10/10 (FSC.DEC/10/10) on the Vienna Document Plus decision on taking national holidays into account when planning verification activities, the text of which is appended to this journal.

Chairperson

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Matters of protocol: Romania, Chairperson

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 3 November 2010, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/631
27 October 2010
Annex

Original: ENGLISH

625th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 631, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. Chairperson,

I am pleased to announce that the UK Government published its National Security Strategy (NSS) on 18 October 2010, and on 19 October published the results of a Strategic Defence and Security Review (SDSR). Both documents are available electronically from the following website: <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk>.

In a fast changing world, the first duty of government remains the security of our country. Taken together these documents set out the strategic vision for the Government's approach to defence and security, and explain in detail how we will deliver that vision. Together they will deliver a step change in Britain's ability to protect its security interests, whilst providing the direction for national policy, capabilities and resources.

I would like to highlight for you some of the key conclusions. Firstly, we are clear that the United Kingdom will continue to play an active and engaged role around the world. We believe that it is in our national interest. We recognize that the security challenges that we face are changing and we will be engaged and adaptable in our response. We will seek to identify and act on threats and opportunities early, to avoid the higher costs of addressing them when they develop. We will work more closely with our allies and international partners to maximise our effect in tackling shared threats. To deliver this we will be joining up national security activity more effectively across Government, both in the United Kingdom and overseas.

In undertaking this review we have had to prioritize rigorously and make some tough choices about which capabilities to protect, which to cut back, and which to enhance. However we have set out a plan over the next decade to ensure that we have the capabilities, including military, which we require to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future.

Close engagement with our key allies and partners will remain a fundamental part of our approach to defence and security. Some issues of the greatest interest will be how SDSR and the associated spending cuts will affect the interests of this organization. At www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk you will also be able to find twenty factsheets for those seeking further information.

Mr. Chairperson, we ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.

625th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 631, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 10/10
VIENNA DOCUMENT PLUS
TAKING NATIONAL HOLIDAYS INTO ACCOUNT WHEN
PLANNING VERIFICATION ACTIVITIES**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Emphasizing the significance of the OSCE's politico-military agreements and the Vienna Document 1999 for strengthening security and stability in Europe,

Reaffirming the OSCE participating States' commitment to the full implementation of agreed confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs),

Implementing Ministerial Council Decision No. 16/09, which calls on the FSC, *inter alia*, to strengthen the Vienna Document 1999,

Guided by FSC Decision No. 1/10 establishing a procedure for incorporating relevant FSC decisions into the Vienna Document,

Using the text of the Vienna Document 1999 as a basis for amendments and additions,

Decides to:

Add the following content to paragraphs (75) and (112) of Chapter IX "Compliance and Verification":

(75) Any participating State will be allowed to address a request for inspection to another participating State within the zone of application for CSBMs. Without prejudice to the right of every participating State to request and conduct inspections within the deadlines set by the inspecting State, when preparing a request for an inspection, participating States will take into account the information, which the participating States exchange on an annual basis, on official national and religious holidays of the receiving State.

(112) Requests for such visits will be submitted not later than five days, but not earlier than seven days, prior to the estimated entry into the territory of the receiving State. Without prejudice to the right of every participating State to request and conduct evaluation visits within the deadlines set by the evaluating State, when preparing a request for an evaluation visit, participating States will take into account the information, which the participating

States exchange on an annual basis, on official national and religious holidays of the receiving State.