

Chairmanship: Liechtenstein

708th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 6 February 2013

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 11.40 a.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador M.-P. Kothbauer

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

Presentation on Ukraine's new military doctrine and new national security strategy by Mr. Volodymyr Omelianchuk, Chief of Military Security Department, Apparatus of National Security and Defence Council, Kyiv, and by Mr. Andrii Yermolaiev, Director of the National Institute for Strategic Studies, Kyiv: Chairperson, Mr. A. Yermolaiev (FSC.DEL/14/13 OSCE+), Mr. V. Omelianchuk (FSC.DEL/13/13 OSCE+), Ireland-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland, Montenegro and Serbia; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Moldova, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/16/13), Russian Federation, Turkey

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Non-compliance with commitments and obligations in the politico-military dimension: Russian Federation (Annex 1), Ireland-European Union, United States of America, San Marino, United Kingdom, Spain, Moldova, Switzerland

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) *Financial contribution to the Integrated Co-operation on Explosive Hazards Programme in Tajikistan: United States of America (Annex 2), Chairperson*

- (b) *Announcement about the 2013 Partnership for Peace training courses, to be held in Ankara: Turkey*
- (c) *Distribution of the Conflict Prevention Centre implementation calendar for 2013 (FSC.GAL/8/13 Restr.): Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre*
- (d) *Recent and planned activities on military training for the navy undertaken in the Russian Federation: Russian Federation (Annex 3), United States of America*
- (e) *Matters of protocol: Switzerland, France*

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 13 February 2013, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/714
6 February 2013
Annex 1

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

708th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 714, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Madam Chairperson,

Over the past year there has been much loud talk in this room about how important it was to implement commitments. Not so long ago the European Union and its members along with a few States that supported them resolutely declared that they did not agree with an erosion of the implementation of existing commitments in the politico-military dimension and insisted on their further strengthening.

Well, today, a month before the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting (AIAM) it is time to turn to this truly important question. Let us see, for example, how the sponsors of the aforementioned statement, who are so strict when it comes to others, are implementing their own commitments. Let us take as a basis for our analysis an authoritative and impartial source – the annual CPC survey on CSBM information exchanged in 2012 (FSC.GAL/3/13 of 18 January 2013).

We cannot but be alarmed at the fact that the problems raised by us as long ago as 15 February 2012 continue to exist to a large extent. Over the last five or six years there have been at least 107 cases of non-compliance with commitments regarding information on such issues as defence planning, defence budgets and conventional arms transfers by 19 of the co-sponsors of the statement. This is almost as many as a year ago. What is more, only in the case of eight States does it appear that the violations occurred accidentally, in the other cases there were two or more such violations.

But perhaps this concerns only the more or less distant past and the situation has normalized in the meantime? Unfortunately, this is not the case. It is already February 2013 and 12 of the States that co-sponsored the statement have not yet settled their arrears for the previous year. Half a year ago, on 18 July 2012, we did not want to name names, but today the situation forces us to do so. Which States are involved and what did they fail to implement in 2012?

Belgium has, for at least the sixth time, not replied to the questionnaire on its policy regarding the export of conventional arms.

The same applies to Bosnia and Herzegovina (admittedly “only” for the fifth time in recent years).

Bulgaria has not provided any data on its defence budget or defence planning.

The same is true of Georgia (incidentally this is at least the third time in recent years).

Iceland has not provided any information on small arms and light weapons (SALW).

Italy has not replied to the questionnaire on its policy regarding the export of conventional arms (for the fifth time in recent years) or provided any data on conventional arms transfers (I might recall that this country is a major player on the global arms market). In addition, it has not replied to the questionnaire on anti-personnel landmines.

Moldova has, for the third time in a row, not replied to the questionnaire on its policy regarding the export of conventional arms. It replied to the questionnaire on the Code of Conduct using the old format.

Montenegro has not provided any information on SALW.

Portugal replied to the questionnaire on the Code of Conduct using the old format.

San Marino has not provided any information on SALW.

Slovakia has not replied to the questionnaire on its policy regarding the export of conventional arms (for the fifth time in recent years) or provided any data on conventional arms transfers. In addition, it has not provided any information on SALW.

Macedonia has not provided any data on its defence budget (for the second time in a row) or its defence planning (for the fourth time in a row).

In total there were 20 cases of non-compliance or insufficient compliance with commitments last year alone. At the same time, we were not very strict in our assessment and, for example, did not take into account those cases in which information on SALW was not provided in full.

Do we understand correctly that our distinguished colleagues from the European Union also had these deficits and omissions in mind when they spoke of “an erosion of the implementation of existing commitments in the politico-military dimension”? If this is the case, then we are fully in agreement with them and can only add that it would probably be better to rectify the situation before insisting that the bar of commitments be raised further, as was the case at the Ministerial Council meeting in Dublin where it was precisely the “all or nothing” position that made it impossible to adopt a balanced decision. I might mention in this connection that as long ago as July of last year our delegation warned: “The lack of proper implementation by OSCE participating States of their commitments within the Organization’s politico-military dimension...could...raise questions about the need for their further development”.

We are not going to emulate our distinguished partners and suggest that they carefully consider their position. It would probably be more productive if we were to focus on practical efforts to settle the existing arrears. We trust that the participating States involved will regularly inform the Forum on that score, as our delegation did a year ago.

I should also like to ask you, distinguished Madam Chairperson, and your colleagues in the FSC Troika to make more active use of the reminder procedure regarding outstanding commitments and to keep the Forum regularly informed about the results of this work.

The current situation prompts us also to consider the usefulness of returning in the future to the previous AIAM agenda, which included items concerned not only with the implementation of the Vienna Document but also of other politico-military commitments.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson, and ask that this statement be attached to the journal of today's meeting.



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

FSC.JOUR/714
6 February 2013
Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

708th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 714, Agenda item 3(a)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Madam Chairperson,

I am pleased to announce that the United States Government has donated 200,000 dollars (USD) to the OSCE extrabudgetary project in Tajikistan for the Integrated Co-operation on Explosive Hazards Programme (ICExH). The overall goal of the ICExH programme is to improve the explosive hazards situation, including demilitarization of explosive ordnance, and countering improvised explosive devices and their proliferation in Central Asian OSCE participating States.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson, and please attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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

FSC.JOUR/714
6 February 2013
Annex 3

ENGLISH
Original: RUSSIAN

708th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 714, Agenda item 3(d)

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Madam Chairperson,

In line with the established tradition and as a sign of goodwill, our delegation believes it necessary to inform our distinguished colleagues on the basis of material from the Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation about some recent combat training exercises of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation that do not fall under the provisions of the Vienna Document. As it happens, all of the information we are reporting today concerns the activities of the Navy of the Russian Federation. I dare say our partners will have no objections, especially as this kind of information has already been heard in this room (the last time it was the delegation of Norway reporting on naval exercises).

Firstly, during the period from 19 to 29 January, a Russian Navy inter-fleet group exercise took place in the waters of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea under the leadership of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation.

Ships from the Black Sea, Baltic and Northern Fleets took part in the largest naval exercise in recent years: the guided-missile cruiser “Moskva”, the large anti-submarine ship “Severomorsk”, the patrol boats “Smetliviy” and “Yaroslav Mudriy”, the major landing ships “Saratov”, “Azov”, “Kaliningrad” and “Alexander Shabalin”, submarines, special-purpose ships and supply vessels as well as long-range aviation forces and the 4th Air and Air Defence Forces Command, and marine and special forces units.

The primary goal of the exercise was to assess the readiness of the military command bodies and naval forces to carry out their missions as intended in an off-shore maritime zone.

During the exercise, the warships, special-purpose ships and supply vessels covered more than 21,000 nautical miles, with official visits to ports in a number of countries. They carried out 33 combat exercises and 29 live-firing exercises involving missiles, artillery and anti-submarine weapons. In particular, there were naval battles with simulated enemy surface vessels involving the practical use of ship-based weapons, simulated attacks by high-speed low-altitude airborne weapons were repelled, training exercises were conducted in submarine detection, the destruction of floating mines, joint manoeuvres and telecommunications, and participants also practised escorting a convoy of ships, liberating a vessel that had been

captured by pirates, repelling an attack by simulated terrorist groups and transferring humanitarian goods from one ship to another while on the move.

A new inter-fleet group command system was successfully tested. The main command body was the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, which guided the operations of the vessels in real time with the aid of a state-of-the-art secure automated command system. The command instruments functioned consistently and reliably, ensuring information exchange even during active electronic jamming.

Now that the exercise has been completed, the detachments of ships from the Baltic and Black Sea Fleets are returning to their bases, while the detachment from the Northern Fleet is embarking on a mission to protect civilian shipping in the Gulf of Aden and along the coast of the Horn of Africa.

All in all, according to the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, the objectives of the exercise were achieved and the designated missions successfully accomplished. There are plans to conduct similar exercises on a regular basis in different parts of the world.

Secondly, in 2012 there was an increase in voyages in the oceanic zone and off-shore maritime zone by warships and other vessels of the Black Sea Fleet. Whereas in 2011 the Fleet's ships covered in total approximately 261,000 nautical miles, of which almost 90,000 miles were in the off-shore maritime zone, in 2012 these figures were 290,000 and 102,000 nautical miles respectively. The forces of the Black Sea Fleet are currently conducting operations in the Mediterranean Sea on a permanent basis and have covered more than 30,000 nautical miles in the first three weeks of this year alone.

In accordance with the international military co-operation plan for 2013, the crews of Black Sea Fleet ships and vessels will participate in a number of international exercises and representative naval exercises in the ports of Mediterranean countries. In April and August planned activities of the Black Sea Naval Cooperation Task Group (BLACKSEAFOR) will take place, in which the Russian Federation will be represented by the major landing ship "Novocherkassk". The bilateral Russian-Ukrainian naval exercise "Fairway of Peace 2013", which will be under Russian command, will take place in April and May in Sevastopol. A voyage by a major landing ship in the Mediterranean Sea is planned for October, with port calls to be made in Montenegro and Greece. In November a Black Sea Fleet ship will participate in the Russian-Italian exercise "Ionex 2013", which takes place annually off the coast of Italy. This year Black Sea Fleet ships will also take part in several planned exercises in the Mediterranean Sea.

Thirdly, a counter-terrorism exercise was conducted in Astrakhan at the naval force and marine battalion base of the Caspian Flotilla, involving around 300 personnel and up to ten pieces of weaponry and military equipment and around 15 surface vessels, boats and supply vessels.

According to the scenario, the attackers, after having investigated the approach routes to the military facility, had captured a vehicle belonging to a troop unit and were attempting to use it to force their way into the military compound. The company tactical team of marines was alerted to this, beat off the attack by the simulated terrorist group and liquidated the

attackers. In the course of the exercise to defend against underwater sabotage at the base, the ships' commanders oversaw the operations of the guard duty services and the ships' crews after being alerted to the threat of a terrorist attack by the warning signal.

At approximately the same time around 500 marines from the Caspian Flotilla carried out live-firing exercises using all their standard weapons at the training grounds of Adanak in Dagestan and Peski Artilleriskie in Astrakhan Oblast. This field exercise aims to train personnel for joint activities within the units and will culminate in a tactical battalion exercise.

I thank you, Madam Chairperson, and ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.