

**Chairmanship: Lithuania**

**718th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 22 May 2013

Opened: 10.05 a.m.

Closed: 12 noon

2. Chairperson: Ambassador G. Čekuolis

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE

*Presentations on arms control in Europe by Dr. H. Gärtner, Director of the Austrian Institute for International Affairs, and on the role of arms control in the context of threats and challenges to European security by Dr. S. Galaka, Professor at the Institute of International Relations of the Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv: Chairperson, Dr. H. Gärtner (FSC.NGO/4/13 OSCE+), Dr. S. Galaka (FSC.NGO/5/13 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 countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Armenia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/81/13), United States of America, Germany, Greece, Turkey, Austria, Russian Federation, Moldova*

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

*Financial contribution to a small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunitions (SCA) project in Kyrgyzstan: United Kingdom (Annex 1), Kyrgyzstan (Annex 2)*

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 29 May 2013, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**718th Plenary Meeting**  
FSC Journal No. 724, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED KINGDOM**

Mr. Chairperson,

Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/11 on small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA) encouraged participating States to continue providing extrabudgetary contributions to support FSC assistance projects in these fields. Having made a modest contribution in 2010, I am delighted to announce that the United Kingdom is now able to make a donation of 480,005 pounds (GBP) – approximately 561,000 euros – to the SALW/SCA project in Kyrgyzstan. Ambassador Judith Farnworth's team at the British Embassy in Bishkek worked hard with the Bishkek OSCE Centre on putting together a sound business case to secure this funding from the UK's Conflict Pool, which I understand is the largest donation received to date. This is an indicator both of the attention the UK pays to Central Asia and also of the merits of this particular project, which aims to:

- Strengthen the capabilities of the Ministry of Defence of the Kyrgyz Republic to effectively manage and control small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition;
- Reduce the risk of illicit proliferation of arms and ammunition, thereby contributing to the enhancement of security in Central Asia;
- Render such weapons unavailable for illegal sale or use;
- Prevent accidental explosions that may result in civilian casualties.

Mr. Chairperson, this is vital work and the UK funding will take the project a long way forward over the next two years. Delegations may remember the joint presentation given by experts from the US and Kyrgyzstan during the training session organized by the Latvian FSC Chairmanship almost a year ago. The presentation made it clear how much work there was to be done; the danger of arms and ammunition being diverted and the risks to safety were all too evident. In collaborating with the OSCE Centre and the authorities of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the United Kingdom looks forward to a successful continuation of the project leading to tangible improvements in security and stability.

I request that you attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.



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

FSC.JOUR/724  
22 May 2013  
Annex 2

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**718th Plenary Meeting**  
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## **STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF KYRGYZSTAN**

Mr. Chairperson,

We are certainly very glad to hear such good news from our colleagues from the United Kingdom, though I would point out that the contribution to be provided to Kyrgyzstan by the United Kingdom is not the first of its kind.

I would like to emphasize that every contribution provided to us by another OSCE participating State is an invaluable contribution to strengthening peace and stability, not only in Kyrgyzstan but also in Central Asia generally.

The decision of the United Kingdom to provide a donation to the SALW/SCA project in Kyrgyzstan is a very good example of the effectiveness and efficiency of the OSCE as an organization. It is also a decision that we take great pleasure in applauding. We are not going to re-emphasize the importance of the project, which the distinguished representative of the United Kingdom has already underlined in his statement. We only want to point out that the aims of the project more than justify the means required to carry it out. The implementation of the project will constitute another important step forward in the cause of stability and security.

We are all equal, but we have different capabilities. As a young democracy, Kyrgyzstan needs the support and assistance of all OSCE participating States that are in a position to help us in this way. We believe that further co-operation between our countries in the framework of the OSCE will result in a successful continuation of the SALW/SCA project. We greatly appreciate the donation being made by the United Kingdom and would once again like to express our sincere gratitude to the Government of the United Kingdom for this contribution to our work.

At the same time I would like to thank all the participating States that constantly provide support, assistance and contributions to various projects and initiatives in our country, including the SALW/SCA project.

Help and mutual support are a source of inspiration and bring our countries closer together, thus also making an important contribution to the strengthening of the OSCE generally.

Mr. Chairperson, I would like to request that you attach this statement to the journal of today's meeting.

Thank you.