

Chairmanship: Tajikistan

914th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 8 May 2019

Opened: 11.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.50 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador I. Kalandar

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson, on behalf of all participating States, offered condolences to the families of the victims of the tragic crash at Sheremetyevo airport in Moscow on 5 May 2019.

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

Agenda item 1: OPENING STATEMENT BY H.E. ZOHIR SAIDZODA,
DEPUTY MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, REPUBLIC
OF TAJIKISTAN

Chairperson, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan, Belarus (FSC.DEL/90/19 OSCE+), Kyrgyzstan, Romania-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia; the European Free Trade Association countries Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/91/19), Slovakia, Canada, Armenia, Russian Federation, Turkey, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, Czech Republic, Switzerland (FSC.DEL/92/19 OSCE+), Uzbekistan, United States of America

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Request for further information on the joint military exercise “Mustafa Kemal Atatürk 2019” between Azerbaijan and Turkey: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Turkey

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Withdrawal of the food-for-thought paper and proposal for a Vienna Document Plus draft decision on risk reduction (Chapter III) concerning an Improved Mechanism for Consultation and Co-operation on Unusual Military Activities (Article 16) (FSC.DEL/50/16/Rev.5 OSCE+) and briefing on the military exercise “Green Griffin” being conducted from 6 to 24 May 2019: Germany*
- (b) *Workshop on the OSCE Best Practice Guide on Deactivation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, held in Minsk on 16 and 17 April 2019: Chairperson of the Informal Group of Friends on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Latvia) (Annex)*
- (c) *Financial contribution to the project “Information Management and Reporting System (iMARS) for collecting, processing and reporting on exchanged military information”:* Finland

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 15 May 2019, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/920
8 May 2019
Annex

Original: ENGLISH

914th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 920, Agenda item 3(b)

**STATEMENT BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE
INFORMAL GROUP OF FRIENDS ON SMALL ARMS AND
LIGHT WEAPONS AND STOCKPILES OF CONVENTIONAL
AMMUNITION (LATVIA)**

Distinguished Chairperson,

I would like to brief the Forum on the Workshop on the OSCE Best Practice Guide on Deactivation of Small Arms and Light Weapons organized by the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre and the Ministry of Defence of Belarus on 16 and 17 April 2019 in Minsk. The workshop was financially supported by the Government of Germany.

The objective of the workshop, in accordance with the full title of the guide, namely, Best Practice Guide on Minimum Standards for National Procedures for the Deactivation of Small Arms and Light Weapons, was to support the OSCE participating States in applying the small arms and light weapons (SALW) deactivation standards, and to discuss how to integrate the standards into national legislation and SALW control procedures.

The regional workshop brought together a total of 37 participants from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, France, Germany, Latvia, Moldova, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United Kingdom, the OSCE, Interpol and Europol.

During the two-day workshop the participants presented their national perspectives on SALW deactivation and discussed possible loopholes and challenges in the SALW control mechanisms.

The workshop programme included a visit to a Belarus armed forces weapons deactivation facility where the participants were able to observe the deactivation procedures and processes practised in Belarus.

To conclude my briefing, the workshop confirmed that the choice of concept for the deactivation of SALW remains the prerogative of the participating State. Some participating States choose destruction of SALW instead of deactivation. Some participating States have introduced the norms and regulations on deactivation only very recently and are still in the process of establishing the relevant mechanisms to strengthen SALW controls, such as record-keeping, control and supervision in connection with deactivated weapons.

I would kindly ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the meeting.

Thank you.