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**Chairmanship: Montenegro****792nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM**

1. Date: Wednesday, 17 June 2015

Opened: 10.05 a.m.  
Suspended: 1 p.m.  
Resumed: 3 p.m.  
Closed: 5.15 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador S. Milačić  
Ms. S. Anđić

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson expressed condolences to Georgia in connection with the recent flooding in that country. Georgia thanked the Chairperson for the expression of sympathy.

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

Agenda item 1: SECURITY DIALOGUE: THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE VIENNA DOCUMENT REGIME AND REGIONAL CONFIDENCE- AND SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES IN CRISIS SITUATIONS – RECENT TRENDS IN IMPLEMENTATION

*Presentations by Mr. W. Richter, German Institute for International and Security Affairs; Lieutenant Colonel B. van der Molen, Deputy Commander, Benelux Arms Control Agency; Mr. A. Zagorski, Head of Department, Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences; and presentation entitled “Sub-regional arms control – lessons learned”, by Major General M. Torres, former Personal Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office for Article IV of Annex I-B of the Dayton Peace Accords: Chairperson, Mr. W. Richter (FSC.NGO/2/15 OSCE+) (FSC.NGO/2/15/Add.1 OSCE+), Lieutenant Colonel B. van der Molen, Mr. A. Zagorski, Major General M. Torres, Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic*

Area; as well as San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/123/15), Croatia (also on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia) (Annex 1), Italy, Greece, Belarus, United States of America, Canada, Turkey, Armenia, Germany, Ukraine (FSC.DEL/120/15), Russian Federation, FSC Chairperson's Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document (Switzerland) (FSC.DEL/119/15 OSCE+)

Agenda item 2:           GENERAL STATEMENTS

- (a)     *Situation in and around Ukraine*: Ukraine (FSC.DEL/121/15), Latvia-European Union (with the candidate countries Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate country Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association country Norway, member of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, Moldova, San Marino and Ukraine, in alignment) (FSC.DEL/124/15), United States of America, Russian Federation
- (b)     *Regional seminar on mine clearance, held in Minsk from 9 to 11 June 2015*: Belarus (FSC.DEL/122/15 OSCE+)
- (c)     *United States of America's 2014 Department of State report entitled "Adherence to and compliance with arms control, non-proliferation, and disarmament agreements and commitments"*: Russian Federation, United States of America
- (d)     *Plans to deploy military equipment on NATO's eastern flank*: Russian Federation, Ukraine (Annex 2), United States of America

Agenda item 3:           ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a)     *Matters of protocol*: United States of America, Chairperson
- (b)     *Organizational matters related to the 2015 Annual Security Review Conference, to be held from 23 to 25 June 2015*: Chairperson

4.     Next meeting:

Wednesday, 1 July 2015, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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**792nd Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 798, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY  
THE DELEGATION OF CROATIA (ALSO ON BEHALF OF BOSNIA  
AND HERZEGOVINA, MONTENEGRO AND SERBIA)**

In my capacity as Representative of Republic of Croatia, the Chair of the Sub-Regional Consultative Commission of the Agreement on Sub-Regional Arms Control in accordance with Article IV, Annex 1-B to the Dayton Agreement, it is my privilege to deliver the following joint statement on behalf of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Republic of Serbia and Republic of Croatia – the Parties to the Agreement.

We warmly welcome Major General Torres to the FSC and would like to thank him for his statement and a presentation on lessons learned in sub-regional arms control, founded on the unique experiences he gained as the last Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for the Article IV.

The consistency in compliance and implementation of mechanisms foreseen by this agreement confirmed its self-sustainability and proved to be a good model for response to regional risks and challenges in a given context and an example of successful overcoming of post-conflict aftermaths.

The Sub-Regional Arms Control Agreement has become a new arms control treaty under the OSCE umbrella. We are very grateful to Major General Torres and his office for their exceptional contribution to the transformation this Agreement went through.

The implementation of the Agreement, for years being under auspices of Personal Representative, came to a phase in its development when States Parties decided to take over the ownership of the process. The role of Major General Torres in that transition to regionally owned arms control instrument was indispensable. In order to successfully transfer the responsibilities of the Personal Representative to regional partners, with his valuable support, we all worked together on the adjustment of provisions of the Agreement. The final result received a strong political recognition through a Ministerial Declaration and a transfer of ownership ceremony organized at the plenary session of the last year's Ministerial Council in Basel.

In conclusion, allow me to once again express our firm commitment to take over responsibility and assuming the full ownership of Article IV. All the Parties of the Agreement

stand ready to share best practices and unique experiences gained through this regional arms control mechanism, within the OSCE region and beyond.



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

FSC.JOUR/798

17 June 2015

Annex 2

Original: ENGLISH

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**792nd Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 798, Agenda item 2(d)

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE**

Madam Chairperson,

In connection with today's statement by the Russian delegation on the status of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (ARC), the delegation of Ukraine wishes to emphasize the following.

International law prohibits the acquisition of part or all of another State's territory through coercion or force. The Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which remains an integral part of Ukraine, was illegally occupied and annexed by the Russian Federation in violation of OSCE principles and commitments and norms of international law. Illegitimate actions on the part of the Russian Federation do not have any legal consequences with regard to the status of the ARC as an integral part of Ukraine. The territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders is safeguarded by international law and UN General Assembly resolution 68/262 of 27 March 2014, "Territorial integrity of Ukraine".

The Russian Federation is now in breach of such fundamental principles of the Helsinki Final Act as sovereign equality and respect for the rights inherent in sovereignty, refraining from the threat or use of force, inviolability of frontiers, territorial integrity of States, peaceful settlement of disputes, non-intervention in internal affairs, and fulfilment in good faith of obligations in international law.

We call on the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and reverse the annexation of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea.

The delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be registered in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.