

Chairmanship: Kyrgyzstan

670th PLENARY MEETING OF THE FORUM

1. Date: Wednesday, 18 January 2012

Opened: 11.05 a.m.

Closed: 12.55 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador L. Imanalieva

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

Agenda item 1: **OPENING STATEMENT OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE FSC BY H.E. MR. ZAMIR SUERKULOV, FIRST DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC**

Chairperson, First Deputy Minister of Defence of Kyrgyzstan (FSC.DEL/4/12), Denmark-European Union (with the acceding country Croatia; the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Montenegro; the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidate countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Andorra, Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (Annex 1), Turkey (Annex 2), Russian Federation, Kazakhstan, Belarus (FSC.DEL/1/12 OSCE+), Canada (Annex 3), Ukraine (FSC.DEL/2/12 OSCE+), United States of America (Annex 4), Azerbaijan, Ireland (Annex 5), Latvia, Armenia, FSC Co-ordinator for Projects on Small Arms and Light Weapons and Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (Hungary), FSC Co-ordinator for the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (Germany), FSC Co-ordinator for the Vienna Document 2011 (Switzerland), *Chef de file* for the 2012 Annual Security Review Conference (Slovakia), FSC Co-ordinator for the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (Ireland), Sweden

Agenda item 2: GENERAL STATEMENTS

Issues related to the implementation of the Vienna Document 2011: Spain (Annex 6), Sweden (Annex 7), United States of America (Annex 8), Russian Federation, Chairperson, Germany

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- (a) *Announcement of the distribution of the CPC Implementation Calendar (FSC.GAL/2/12 Restr.) and the Annual CPC Survey on CSBM Information Exchanged in 2011 (FSC.GAL/1/12 Restr.):* Representative of the Conflict Prevention Centre
- (b) *Matters of protocol:* Sweden

4. Next meeting:

Wednesday, 25 January 2012, at 10 a.m. in the Neuer Saal



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

FSC.JOUR/676
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Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

670th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 676, Agenda item 1

STATEMENT BY THE EUROPEAN UNION

The European Union (EU) welcomes Kyrgyzstan as the new Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC). We wish Latvia every success as a new member of the FSC Troika and thank Italy, which is leaving the Troika, for its efforts and commitment over the past year.

The EU is grateful to H.E. Mr. Zamir Suerkulov, First Deputy Minister of Defence of the Kyrgyz Republic, for his statement and to the Kyrgyz FSC Chairmanship for setting out their plans. We believe these provide a good framework for the FSC's work in the first trimester of 2012 on core issues of its mandate: arms control, confidence- and security-building measures (CSBMs), small arms and light weapons (SALW) and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA), the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security (CoC), and non-proliferation.

The EU appreciates the excellent work done during the last trimester of 2011 by the Kazakh FSC Chairmanship and would like to pay special tribute to them for the particular effort and focus required to ensure that we achieved a Vienna Document 2011 and adopt three Ministerial Council decisions in Vilnius.

Kyrgyzstan's assumption of the Chairmanship of this Forum comes at an important time as we put in motion implementation of the ministerial decisions adopted in Vilnius.

Further updating and modernizing the Vienna Document remains a key priority for the EU and its Member States. We believe that the further impetus requested from the FSC by Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/11 should aim for concrete results in areas such as lowering the thresholds at which we are obliged to inform other participating States of our military exercises, increasing opportunities for verification activities, expanding the range of military activities on which we notify our partners, modernising and updating our exchange of military information, informing our partners of at least one below threshold military exercise every year, strengthening our risk reduction mechanisms as well as exploring ways in which we can enlarge the scope of CSBMs. We should do this with full regard to resource restraints and with the further aim of improving our overall level of implementation.

Madam Chairperson,

We hope for a strategic direction and forward-leaning attitude that can lead to successful work on the Vienna Document, to bring it into line with realities of the political and military situation that pertains in Europe and across the OSCE area.

We are fully committed to the implementation of the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW and attach great importance to its further acceleration, especially in the context of its forthcoming review in 2012 and the tasking provided for by the Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/11 adopted in Vilnius.

We are convinced that there is compelling need for an enhanced multilateral approach on SALW. In order to develop the synergy between the OSCE and the UN the EU supports an active role of the OSCE in the Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action on SALW. Moreover, the EU and its Member States will continue to contribute actively to the discussions with regard to the negotiations of a global Arms Trade Treaty and their implications for SALW related matters.

We look forward to the first annual meeting to discuss the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security to be held in 2012. Such an annual review will provide a new focused and regularized opportunity to examine how well the Code is functioning in the current political and security conditions in the OSCE region, as well as to intensify our discussions regarding both the content of the information exchange and the ways for its further enhancement.

We support regional efforts towards the implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004), including through information sharing, enhanced cooperation with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to UNSCR 1540 (2004) and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), as well as provision of practical assistance to participating States, at their request. The OSCE should aim at further co-operating with other international organizations in this field and at ensuring synergy rather than duplication in their respective activities in support of the full implementation of UNSCR 1540 (2004).

We look forward to examining, within the FSC, ways of assisting in the implementation of UNSCR 1325 (2000) and related resolutions on gender and security.

The EU is aware that the workload of the FSC Chairmanships in 2012 is demanding. We look forward to working constructively with the FSC Troika in order to deliver tangible results and benefits.

The acceding country Croatia, the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro¹ and Iceland², the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates countries Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia, the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the

¹ Croatia, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Montenegro continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.

² Iceland continues to be a member of EFTA and the European Economic Area.

European Economic Area, as well as the Republic of Moldova, Andorra and San Marino align themselves with this statement.

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to ask you to attach this statement to the journal of the day.



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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF TURKEY

Madam Chairperson,

I would also like to warmly welcome Kyrgyzstan as the new Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC). We value our relations with Kyrgyzstan both at bilateral and multilateral levels and attach great importance to the close collaboration with Kyrgyzstan in all areas. We are pleased to see that Kyrgyzstan also considers these relations to be of strategic nature, as has been demonstrated by the State visit of President Atambayev to Turkey last week, after assumption of his high office. We believe that this is a clear indication of the high level mutual political will to strengthen our co-operation based on strong bonds of kinship and friendship.

I also extend our welcome to Latvia as a new member of the FSC Troika as well as to Macedonia, who will assume the Chairmanship on the last quarter of 2012 and wish them every success in the upcoming demanding work of the FSC.

We are grateful for the presence among us today of H.E. Mr. Zamir Suerkulov, First Deputy Minister of Defence of the Kyrgyz Republic and thank him for his comprehensive opening statement. We support the work programme set out by the Kyrgyz FSC Chairmanship, which provide an excellent framework for working towards our common goals in the fields of arms control, non-proliferation, confidence- and security-building measures, small arms and light weapons as well as the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security. We also value the Security Dialogue, which remains a valuable forum for addressing and exchanging views on current security issues.

On this occasion, I would like to express our appreciation for the work done last year by the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan. Three decisions put forward by the Chairmanship were adopted by our ministers in Vilnius that identify the priorities of our future work and set forth clear tasks for the Forum to fulfil in 2012. We agree that further updating and modernizing of the Vienna Document is necessary. The adoption of the VD 2011 has great political significance that we should build our future work on and implement fully what we have so far achieved.

That being said, we still have a lot to accomplish in accordance with the tasks given to us by our ministers in Vilnius. We have no doubt that the Kyrgyz Chairmanship will

deploy every effort to take FSC work further. In this vein, I would like to express my country's readiness to contribute to those efforts in a co-operative and constructive spirit.

Madam Chairperson, I kindly ask you to append this statement to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF CANADA

Madam Chairperson,

Canada joins others in warmly welcoming Kyrgyzstan as the new Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC). Canada also welcomes Latvia as new member of the FSC Troika and thanks Kazakhstan for its excellent work last fall and culminating in the Vilnius Ministerial.

Canada wishes to thank Ambassador Lidia Imanalieva for her comprehensive opening statement, as well as His Excellency, First Deputy Minister Suerkulov for sharing his vision of the way ahead for the FSC's work. My delegation lends its support to the Chairmanship's proposed work plan for the first trimester of this year, and notes that we share many common priorities for the OSCE's future work.

In particular, Canada firmly supports the Chairmanship's commitment to follow-up on the implementation of the Vilnius Ministerial results on: "Issues relevant to the FSC"; "Small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition"; and on the "Proper role of the OSCE in facilitation of UNSCR 1540". We also support the Chairmanship's commitment to further our Security Dialogue to address current and evolving security issues.

Like others, we would have hoped for more substantial and ambitious decisions and work in updating the Vienna Document 2011, which was a good start but far from sufficient in our efforts to modernize our regional regimes and CSBMs for conventional arms control. We are both surprised and disappointed that one participating State has recently refused a VD 2011 inspection mission and hope that this matter can be resolved, and not repeated. Canada, therefore, will continue to give priority to full implementation of VD 2011 and to further work on its modernization 2012 and beyond, with the aim of increasing military stability, transparency and predictability for all OSCE participating States.

Canada stands ready to continue discussion on the annual information exchange on the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security and would encourage more concrete involvement of the OSCE in assisting in the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 and related resolutions on the issue of gender and security. In this regard, Canada welcomes the fact that the Ministerial Council decision on the conflict

cycle, adopted in Vilnius, recognized the significant role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peace-building, and recalled UN Security Council resolution 1325. This is a step forward for strengthening our Organization's toolkit, and we need to build on this.

Madam Chairperson,

Canada continues to view the Forum for Security Co-operation as a central forum for advancing the politico-military dimension of European security and you can count on our delegation's support and active co-operation in delivering the Chairmanships proposed game plan for the coming year. We look forward to adopting a substantive agenda for the 2012 Annual Security Review Conference, and trust that we soon can reach agreement on the main themes and agenda.

Canada wishes to underscore that it values and embraces the OSCE's unique comprehensive approach to security for our vast Euro-Atlantic and Eurasian community; in fact, this comprehensive security approach remains ever more relevant today as the developments in our "Arab Awakening" Partners of North Africa and the Middle East have reminded us. And, our OSCE's comprehensive security work – that encompasses the politico-military but also the economic and environmental, and human dimensions – must be reinforced, not weakened, and this holds especially true for the clear link between human rights and security. The lack of any outcome at the Vilnius Ministerial on the human dimension was unfortunate and a disappointment that must not be repeated.

For these reasons, we welcome the Irish OSCE Chairmanship's firm commitment to having a balanced package of decisions and deliverables for the Dublin Ministerial in December.

Madam Chairperson, I kindly request that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you.



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

Madam Chairperson, Ambassador Imanalieva,
His Excellency, First Deputy Minister of Defence Suerkulov,
Ladies and gentlemen,
Colleagues,

The United States welcomes Kyrgyzstan's Chairmanship of the Forum for Security Co-operation this winter session. We look forward to full, open and productive discussions on how we can best continue to modernize the OSCE's arms control and CSBM mechanisms and address the issues that continue to undermine security in the OSCE area of application.

2012 will be a year of transitions. For the United States, we will continue to explore and consult with our partners on how we can give real impetus to the modernization of the Vienna Document so that it remains a vital contribution to building confidence and security in Europe. While we warmly welcome the accomplishments achieved in 2011 under the consecutive Chairmanships of Iceland, Italy and Kazakhstan, including the issuance of the first update to the Vienna Document in 12 years, there is much more significant and substantial work that we want to achieve over the next 11 months. More generally, we would hope that 2012 can be a year when all members of the OSCE work to increase co-operation and military transparency.

The United States confirms its position, as noted in the 7 December interpretive statement delivered at the Ministerial Council meeting in Vilnius, expressing our concern that "at a time when arms control and CSBMs in Europe are under strain as never before, that we are unable to look up from our national agendas to engage on work that would benefit us all."

Madam Chairperson,

The United States understands the difficulties related to advancing new concepts, ideas and proposals through intra-government bureaucracies. We are sympathetic to the challenges facing our partners that too frequently result in delay or the inability to join consensus. However, after a decade of some rather dramatic changes to the European and global security landscape, it seems we need to change our assumptions about the value of CSBMs and arms control. If we want our European security relationships to remain relevant

and not deteriorate into mutual suspicion, we must stop looking at security as what we could possibly lose, but rather start looking at what we will gain by adapting ourselves and our instruments to the modern world.

The U.S. will continue to press for a lowering of thresholds for notification of military activities. We are pleased to be a co-sponsor of a meaningful proposal on lowering notification thresholds that is supported by a majority of OSCE states. We will support efforts to enhance and rationalize information exchanges, inspections, evaluations, and observations to improve both resource efficiencies and military transparency, and enhance our risk reduction mechanisms, including those in support of Ministerial Council Decision No. 3/11 on the conflict cycle. Consistent with these priorities, we want to ensure that the Annual Implementation Assessment Meeting accurately reviews the implementation of all Vienna Document measures that were in effect throughout 2011. Furthermore, we want to review the practicalities related to hosting the Heads of Verification Centres meeting during the December information exchange, and reconsider the nature and timing of these meetings. Perhaps they would be more useful taking place on the margins of the AIAM.

We also look forward to contributing to the first annual discussion on the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspect of Security. We look forward to more in-depth elaboration of the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons, including the experts' session. And we look forward to a robust and constructive discussion on strengthening the OSCE's non-proliferation agenda, especially regarding UNSCR 1540 and the Principles Governing Non-Proliferation.

Last, but in no way least, we look forward to engaging participating States on a thorough examination of the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related resolutions on the issue of women, peace, and security in the politico-military dimension.

Madam Chairperson,

Thank you again for Kyrgyzstan's vision for this winter session of the FSC. We again want to thank your predecessors from 2011, for their efforts shepherding us to make 2012 a memorable year for the FSC. We have done great work, but the more difficult challenges are still before us. Let us tackle these challenges together with a positive and constructive spirit that will improve European security for all of us. We wish Kyrgyzstan every success for its Chairmanship.

I ask that these remarks be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF IRELAND

Madam Chairperson, thank you for giving me the floor.

I fully support the comments made by the delegation of Denmark on behalf of the European Union. I would like to add some remarks in my capacity as Chairperson of the Permanent Council and in my national capacity. I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate you and your delegation on assuming the Chairmanship of the FSC and to wish you well in your endeavours over the next four months. My delegation looks forward to working closely with you and your successors in 2012, Latvia and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. I would also like to avail of this opportunity to once again thank the chairmanships of 2011 – Kazakhstan, Italy and Iceland, and congratulate them on what was a very productive year for the FSC.

I particularly welcome the opening statement by First Deputy Minister Suerkulov. The year 2012 brings new challenges and the work programme that you have prepared is a reflection of this. The adoption of the Vienna Document 2011 was an important milestone for the Organization but as we all know, much work remains to be done. The Irish Chairmanship-in-Office fully supports efforts to make progress on updating and modernizing the Vienna Document as an instrument for ensuring military stability, predictability and transparency across the OSCE area.

The FSC Chairmanship's work programme also includes important plans in the areas of small arms and light weapons, stockpiles of conventional ammunition, the Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security, non-proliferation, and gender and security. All of these priorities are shared by the OSCE Chairmanship and I encourage delegations to continue to build on the progress that has been made in the past.

Security Dialogues continue to be an important catalyst in generating debate, developing ideas and assessing programmes within the realm of the FSC. I look forward to an interesting programme of dialogues during 2012.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to draw the attention of the FSC to a document issued by the Chairmanship-in-Office last week entitled "From Astana to Dublin: Towards a Security Community – Building Blocks for 2012" (CIO.GAL/3/12). As set out in that document, our intention is that participating States take stock of where the Organization is in

the process of building a security community, as mandated in Astana. We intend to use the Annual Security Review Conference as an opportunity to invite participating States to reflect on where we stand on arms control and confidence- and security-building measures and we would encourage delegations to use this opportunity to refocus on the role of the FSC in the security community.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to take this opportunity to inform the Forum for Security Co-operation of the launch, on 25 November last, of Ireland's National Action Plan on United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 relating to women, peace and security.

The Plan sets out how Ireland will promote the objectives of resolution 1325, which calls for an increase in the participation of women in peace processes, the protection of women and girls in armed conflict, and recognition of the link between conflict and gender-based violence. The Plan was drawn up following extensive consultations with women's groups, government departments and academia.

Amongst other things, the National Action Plan commits Ireland to use our position as Chairmanship-in-Office of the OSCE in 2012 to promote implementation of UNSCR 1325, including advocating for participating States to develop their own UNSCR 1325 national action plans. This we believe complements the important Ministerial Council Decision No. 7/11 of 2011 concerning issues relevant to the FSC, in which our ministers tasked the FSC to:

“Examine ways that it can assist in the implementation in the OSCE region of United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and related resolutions on the issue of gender and security;”

In this vein, the Irish delegation was delighted to be able to respond positively to your request, Madam Chairperson, that Lt. Colonel Martin McInerney serve as the Chair's Co-ordinator on 1325. The appointment was of course announced by you, Minister.

Copies of the National Action Plan are available on request from my delegation and from the website of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – www.dfat.ie.

In a national capacity, Madam Chairperson, I would like to again congratulate you on taking over the chair of the FSC and assure you of my and my delegation's fullest support in the coming trimester.

I would ask that this statement be attached to the journal of the day.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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Annex 6

ENGLISH
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670th Plenary Meeting
FSC Journal No. 676, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SPAIN

Madam Chairperson,

Within the framework of the confidence-and security-building measures provided for under the Vienna Document 2011, Spain, on behalf of the Spanish Verification Unit of the Ministry of Defence, requested the Russian Federation to permit an evaluation visit to the army air base at Budennovsk, located on the territory of the Russian Federation (CBM/ES/12/0002/F36/O). The request was sent on 4 January and the visit was to have taken place on 11 January.

On 6 January, the Russian Federation responded by refusing this request on the basis of paragraph 118 of the Vienna Document, which provides that every participating State has the right “not to accept a visit”, on the grounds of “*force majeure*”, the reason being that the legal procedures designed to guarantee the application of the Vienna Document 2011 were in progress.

Subsequently, Spain exercised its right to clarification by requesting the Russian Federation to comment on the following points (CBM/ES/12/0003/F41/O):

- Whether the *force majeure* situation affected all the formations and units, or only the one to which an evaluation visit had been requested;
- The number of days during which the unit in question could not be evaluated.

Similarly, the Russian Federation was reminded that the Vienna Document 2011 had entered into force on 1 December of last year, with no provision for any period of transition for its implementation.

We are grateful to the Russian delegation for the information that it yesterday provided informally to this delegation regarding this matter. Nevertheless, in conformity with the provisions of paragraph 118 of the Vienna Document, we continue to look forward to a response to the notification regarding the aforementioned request for clarification.

Madam Chairperson,

As we all know, the entry into force of the Vienna Document 2011 on 1 December of last year made it possible for the first important steps to be taken towards a strategic updating of the Vienna Document. In this respect, Spain attaches enormous importance to the application of this political instrument within the framework of confidence- and security-building measures in the OSCE area.

We hope that the situation created by the refusal to accept the evaluation visit will be resolved as quickly as possible with the aim of ensuring the unimpeded application of the Vienna Document 2011.

Madam Chairperson,

We should be most grateful if this statement were to be attached to the journal of this plenary meeting.



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Original: ENGLISH

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STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF SWEDEN

Madam Chairperson,

I would like to draw your attention to a Swedish evaluation visit request in accordance with the Vienna Document 2011 last week.

The evaluation visit request with reference number CBM/SE/12/0001/F36/O was submitted through the INA network to the Russian Federation on Monday, 9 January.

We received an answer from the Russian Federation with reference number CBM/RU/12/0002/F37/O in which our request was declined. The reason given for non-acceptance was "*force majeure*" with reference to uncompleted legal procedures for implementing the VD 2011.

Sweden regrets that the evaluation visit request in accordance with the VD 2011 was not accepted.

In this context Sweden would like to request the distinguished delegation of the Russian Federation for a more detailed explanation to the current problem and when you estimate the problems to be resolved.

The implementation of the VD 2011, one of the key OSCE documents, is important for confidence- and security-building and military transparency in our region. It would therefore be highly unfortunate if the functioning of the Vienna Document is impaired.

Sweden hopes that the current situation will be solved as soon as possible.

Thank you, Madam Chairperson.



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Original: ENGLISH

670th Plenary Meeting
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**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

Madam Chairperson,

The United States regrets that the 2012 winter session of the FSC begins on an inauspicious note. The Russian Federation's refusal of a Spanish Vienna Document evaluation visit request on 6 January and a Swedish request on 11 January citing *force majeure* based on "the incompleteness of procedures ensuring the legal implementation of Vienna Document 2011" is unjustified, unacceptable and undermines the object and purpose of the Document. Acceptance of properly notified Vienna Document evaluation visits is a basic obligation that all OSCE States share.

The provisions for the conduct of evaluation visits in the Vienna Document 2011 are an update of the earlier provisions. Publication of the Vienna Document 2011 does not in any way diminish the continuing obligation of all participating States to abide by previously agreed provisions or any individual VD Plus decision that was agreed prior to the issuance of the updated Vienna Document itself.

We therefore look forward to a better explanation for the use of *force majeure* to justify refusing these visits. We sincerely hope this was not intended to circumvent the common international understanding that *force majeure* applies to major events that are clearly outside a party's control and which would have been in any case unavoidable by a party's good faith application of due diligence to its obligations.

We request that our statement be appended to the journal of the day.

Thank you Madam Chairperson.