

Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Forum for Security Co-operation Permanent Council

FSC-PC.JOUR/41 7 April 2014

Original: ENGLISH

FSC Chairmanship: Malta

OSCE Chairmanship: Switzerland

54th (SPECIAL) JOINT MEETING OF THE FORUM FOR SECURITY CO-OPERATION AND THE PERMANENT COUNCIL

1. <u>Date</u>: Monday, 7 April 2014

Opened: 11.35 a.m. Closed: 1 p.m.

2. <u>Chairperson</u>: Ambassador K. Azzopardi (FSC) (Malta)

Ambassador T. Greminger (PC) (Switzerland)

3. <u>Subjects discussed – Statements – Decisions/documents adopted:</u>

Agenda item 1: OPENING REMARKS BY THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE

PC AND THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FSC

Chairperson (PC), Chairperson (FSC)

Agenda item 2: ACTIVATION OF PARAGRAPH 16.3 OF THE VIENNA

DOCUMENT 2011 ON CONFIDENCE- AND

SECURITY-BUILDING MEASURES, CHAPTER III

"MECHANISM FOR CONSULTATION AND

CO-OPERATION AS REGARDS UNUSUAL MILITARY ACTIVITIES", PARAGRAPH 16.3 "MEETING OF ALL PARTICIPATING STATES REGARDING UNUSUAL

MILITARY ACTIVITIES"

Ukraine, United States of America (Annex) (FSC-PC.DEL/9/14), Greece-European Union (with 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 and Bosnia and Herzegovina; the European Free Trade Association countries Liechtenstein and Norway, members of the European Economic Area; as well as Georgia, in alignment) (FSC-PC.DEL/8/14/Rev.1), Canada, United Kingdom, Turkey, Belarus (FSC-PC.DEL/10/14 OSCE+), France (also on behalf of Germany and Poland), Chairperson (PC)

Agenda item 3: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

4. <u>Next meeting</u>:

To be announced



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Forum for Security Co-operation Permanent Council FSC-PC.JOUR/41 7 April 2014 Annex

Original: ENGLISH

54th Joint Meeting of the FSC and the PC

FSC-PC Journal No. 41, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The United States appreciates your convening of this meeting at our request, among others. We regret that the need for such a meeting became imperative in the face of the Russian Federation's refusal to participate in the meeting we requested in notification CBM/US/14/0013/F12/O – thus disregarding its commitment to participate in such a meeting described in Chapter III, paragraph 16.2 of the Vienna Document 2011.

As colleagues in the room are well aware, the purpose of that requested meeting was to seek information about unusual Russian military activities on its territory in the border region with Ukraine. The United States was seeking an opportunity for a thorough discussion of questions and concerns raised by those ongoing unusual Russian military activities. Despite the Russian Federation's response asserting that this military activity "does not threaten the security of the United States and other OSCE States Parties", the United States continues to have serious concerns and questions regarding this deployment.

We reject the Russian Federation's comment that the use of Chapter III measures by the United States is "unfounded". Our concerns are serious and genuine. This Russian military activity has given rise to specific concerns about the security of at least one OSCE State, Ukraine, and has generated questions and concerns among many neighbours as well.

Mr. Chairperson,

The Vienna Document is this Organization's signature confidence- and security-building tool and we object to the Russian Federation's disregard for the Document's risk reduction provisions – provisions that were agreed by consensus to be a viable avenue for consultation when States have security concerns about the unusual and unscheduled military activities of another State.

It is regrettable that the Russian Federation has elected not to attend today's meeting. The refusal to engage in dialogue and discussion further calls into question the Russian Federation's intentions and further damages Russia's stature and status in the international community. While it was a few States who requested this meeting, it is all of us around this table who as signatories of the Vienna Document are entitled to benefit from an exchange of information. Russia's contempt for the principles of this Organization and for each of our governments is deeply regrettable.

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

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.