

Chairmanship: Switzerland

**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE PERMANENT COUNCIL
(1011th Plenary Meeting)**

1. Date: Friday, 18 July 2014

Opened: 5.40 p.m.

Closed: 6.45 p.m.

2. Chairperson: Ambassador T. Greminger

Prior to taking up the agenda, the Chairperson expressed condolences to the families and victims of the tragic crash of Malaysian Airlines flight MH17 in Ukraine. The Council then observed a moment of silence.

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

Agenda item 1: DECLARATION ON THE TRAGIC CRASH OF THE
MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT MH17 IN UKRAINE

Chairperson

Document adopted: The Permanent Council adopted the Declaration on the Tragic Crash of the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Ukraine (PC.DOC/2/14), the text of which is appended to this journal.

Ukraine (interpretative statement, see attachment to the document), Australia (Partner for Co-operation) (Annex 1)

Agenda item 2: TRAGIC CRASH OF THE MALAYSIAN AIRLINES
FLIGHT MH17 IN UKRAINE

Chairperson, Netherlands (PC.DEL/904/14 OSCE+), Ukraine (Annex 2), Italy-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 Moldova and San Marino, in alignment) (PC.DEL/912/14), Russian Federation (Annex 3), Canada (PC.DEL/921/14 OSCE+), Turkey, United States of America (PC.DEL/927/14), Mongolia (PC.DEL/903/14), Australia (Partner for Co-operation), Serbia, Romania (PC.DEL/929/14 OSCE+), Belgium (Annex 4), Japan (Partner for Co-operation), Georgia (PC.DEL/924/14 OSCE+), Holy See, Azerbaijan, United Kingdom, Belarus, Kyrgyzstan, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Secretary General

Agenda item 3: REVIEW OF CURRENT ISSUES

None

Agenda item 4: ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Announcement of a tender for unmanned aerial vehicles: Secretary General

4. Next meeting:

Thursday, 24 July 2014, at 10 a.m., in the Neuer Saal



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

PC.JOUR/1011
18 July 2014
Annex 1

Original: ENGLISH

1011th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1011, Agenda item 1

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF AUSTRALIA
(PARTNER FOR CO-OPERATION)**

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson,

Australia welcomes and wishes to associate itself with today's Permanent Council declaration. We would like this statement to be attached to the journal of the day.



1011th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1011, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF UKRAINE

Mr. Chairperson,

I will start my statement by quoting from the address from the President of Ukraine Petro Poroshenko: “Today, war has gone beyond the territory of Ukraine. Consequences of this war have already reached the whole world. Tragedy that has taken place today in the sky of Donetsk deeply shocks even against the usual backdrop of sad and dramatic events caused by the actions of aggressors and militants in the Donbas.

Today, terrorists have killed almost 300 persons with one shot. Among them are women, children, citizens of different countries of the world.

On behalf of the Ukrainian State, I express deep and sincere condolences to families and friends of the innocent victims. Ukraine grieves with you...” The full text of the address is distributed among the delegations.

Mr. Chairperson,

On 17 July 2014 at an altitude of 10,100 metres the civilian aircraft Boeing 777 (flight MH-17) of “Malaysia Airlines” was shot down in the sky over eastern Ukraine. All passengers and crew members on board the plane were killed.

This crash has become a tragedy for Ukraine and the whole world. We express our sincere condolences to the families and loved ones of those killed in this terrible accident.

According to the currently available information, at around 4.20 p.m. the plane disappeared from radar screens of the Dnipropetrovsk regional control centre. The plane went down in 3 kilometres northwest to the locality Grabove of the Shakhtarsky district in Donetsk region near the Ukrainian-Russian border. The crash site is located in the zone, which is currently under the operational control of the Russia-supported terrorist groups.

Few hours after the crash SSU received and published the undeniable evidence that the aircraft was shot down by pro-Russian terrorists from Russian weapon. One of the militants’ leaders was boasting of the downed aircraft in a conversation with his foreign Russian supervisor, colonel of the Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation Vasili Geranin. Other terrorists also bragged about

the new trophy immediately after the plane was shot down. The shooting of the plane, where the terrorists took responsibility, was widely reported by pro-militant Russian media.

The Delegation of Ukraine has presented to the participating States at this meeting the relevant images and the Security Service of Ukraine intercept of telephone conversation between the terrorists following their criminal act.

This week it has become the third tragic accident following AN-26 and SU-25 aircrafts of the Ukrainian Armed Forces downed from the Russian territory.

Mr. Chairperson,

The President of Ukraine immediately initiated the establishment of the State Commission with the involvement of the ICAO and other international agencies for thorough investigation of the causes of this terrorist act.

As the crash site in the terrorists' controlled area, the Government of Ukraine has been taking all measures in order to negotiate full access to the crash site and carry out identification and repatriation of dead bodies. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine established the emergency response centre that works twenty-four hours on processing requests from families of killed passengers and co-ordinates with relevant foreign diplomatic missions accredited in Ukraine. The same centres were established at the embassies of Ukraine in Malaysia and the Netherlands. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine will ensure quick issuance of visas for relatives of the victims, including on arrival at the "Borispol" airport.

Distinguished colleagues,

For months now at each meeting of the Permanent Council we have drawn attention of the participating States to the criminal terrorist activities of the self-proclaimed "Donetsk People's Republic" and "Luhansk People's Republic". Activities that have brought huge sufferings to the people of the two eastern oblasts of Ukraine, of the entire Ukraine and now of the international community. The extent of those crimes would not have been possible without ongoing logistical and material support coming from the Russian Federation, continuous inflow of weapons, including heavy and sophisticated weaponry, and mercenaries from the Russian territory.

Against the backdrop of yesterday's tragedy, we call on all participating States to condemn this act of terrorism and redouble joint efforts in assisting Ukraine to eliminate the threat of terrorists in the east of the country. We call on all participating States to recognize the self-proclaimed "Donetsk People's Republic" and "Luhansk People's Republic" as terrorist organizations.

We again strongly urge the Russian Federation to return to the tenets of international law and OSCE principles and commitments, to cease aggression against Ukraine and stop exporting terrorism to our country. We again strongly urge Russia to halt the flows of weaponry and militants from the territory of the Russian Federation into Ukraine whereby it will fulfil its international obligations and OSCE commitments as well as provisions of its national legislation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.



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

PC.JOUR/1011

18 July 2014

Annex 3

ENGLISH

Original: RUSSIAN

1011th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1011, Agenda item 2

**STATEMENT BY
THE DELEGATION OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

Mr. Chairperson,

A terrible tragedy has taken place in the skies over Ukraine: a civilian aircraft has been destroyed. According to preliminary information, 298 people have been killed. The Russian Government has expressed its condolences to all of the families of those killed and to the governments of the countries whose citizens were on board the aircraft.

Russian President Vladimir Putin has expressed his sincere condolences to the Prime Minister of the Netherlands, Mark Rutte, and the Prime Minister of Malaysia, Najib Razak.

The Russian President has instructed military agencies to provide all necessary assistance in the investigation of this crime. Through the appropriate civil agencies, the Government of the Russian Federation will do everything to thoroughly investigate this event and to provide the Russian public, the Ukrainian public and the world as a whole with an objective picture of what has taken place.

What has happened is absolutely unacceptable. Objective information about these events must be obtained.

For this, a truly impartial and transparent international investigation is essential.

Experts from the Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations are prepared to assist Ukrainian recovery workers in managing the aftermath of the Boeing 777 crash in Donetsk region. The Russian Ministry for Emergency Situations has sent an official request and offer for our recovery specialists to participate in this difficult task.

We welcome the agreements reached during the Contact Group negotiations. They address ensuring security at the site of the catastrophe, and free access and safety guarantees for local and international specialists, as well as observers from the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission. There will be co-operation with the competent Ukrainian structures on all practical issues in managing the aftermath of the disaster and the investigation.

The Russian Federation wholeheartedly rejects the Ukrainian representative's insinuations that Russia somehow played a part in this tragedy.

The fact that Kyiv is already trying to instrumentalize this catastrophe for political purposes so soon after the event unfortunately serves as an indirect confirmation of some of our worst fears.

The Ministry of Defence of the Russian Federation made the following announcement.

In order to objectively investigate the tragedy of the Boeing 777 destroyed on Ukrainian territory, it is essential to carry out a thorough investigation involving representatives of all interested international organizations. According to the Russian Ministry of Defence, subunits of the Ukrainian armed forces armed with Buk-M1 surface-to-air missile launchers are present in the area where the disaster took place. In the north-western outskirts of Donetsk, divisions of the 156th Surface-to-Air Missile Regiment of the Ukrainian armed forces are deployed, with 27 Buk-M1 systems.

The claims made by Kyiv that these launchers or aircraft were not firing at airborne targets raise serious doubts. It is impossible to come to such a clear-cut conclusion in such a short space of time amid the fierce battles in the region. Such claims, which have serious legal consequences, require comprehensive investigation.

The Permanent Council Declaration adopted today sends an important signal that all OSCE participating States are prepared to ensure that there can be an independent international investigation into this tragedy that is as open as possible.

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



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

PC.JOUR/1011

18 July 2014

Annex 4

ENGLISH

Original: FRENCH

1011th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 1011, Agenda item 2

STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF BELGIUM

Mr. Chairperson,

In these dramatic circumstances, I should first of all like to indicate that Belgium does, of course, subscribe to the statement by the European Union.

As several Belgian nationals were among the victims of the disaster, I should like to make some additional remarks in my national capacity.

I join the many expressions of sympathy that have already been made, and, on behalf of my authorities, I ask that we turn all of our thoughts towards each disappeared person, including the many children. I also wish to reiterate here our sincere condolences to the families and friends of the many innocent victims on the Malaysia Airlines flight, as well as to their peoples and their governments.

Our thoughts go out to all of the affected countries, including Malaysia, but, as our Minister for Foreign Affairs told his counterpart, Frans Timmermans yesterday, they turn particularly to the many Dutch victims, their friends and families, as well as to the people and authorities of the Netherlands: a country that is so close to Belgium within the Benelux, and so severely affected.

My country would like to thank the Chairmanship, the delegations and their authorities for their messages of support. Like so many others, Belgium is shocked and horrified by the disaster that took place on Thursday, 17 July in eastern Ukraine. Aside from its many personal and national repercussions, one point in particular has also not escaped our attention: the transnational nature of this event, sadly illustrated by the presence among the victims of families of different nationalities and residents of our countries of other nationalities. We are, therefore, all directly affected by what happened yesterday on Ukrainian soil, and we are united in these moments of sadness.

Mr. Chairperson,

We call for everything to be done to shed light on the precise circumstances of this tragedy and for those responsible to be swiftly identified and brought to justice with the greatest vigour. As has already been emphasized, including by the Chairperson-in-Office and

the Trilateral Contact Group, it is essential that we guarantee free access to the scene of the disaster and ensure its protection, so that the independent international investigation can work as it is meant to. This also implies unfettered access to the aircraft's black boxes. We commend the useful role already played on the ground by the OSCE and its Special Monitoring Mission.

Yesterday's tragedy reminds all of us more than ever of the urgent need to do everything possible to end the current serious crisis.

Mr. Chairperson,

I request that this statement be attached to the journal of today's Permanent Council meeting.

Thank you.

1011th Plenary Meeting
PC Journal No. 1011, Agenda item 1

**DECLARATION ON THE
TRAGIC CRASH OF THE MALAYSIA AIRLINES FLIGHT MH17
IN UKRAINE**

The Permanent Council,

Appalled by the 17 July crash of the civilian commercial aircraft Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Donetsk Oblast, Ukraine,

Deeply saddened by the death of citizens of at least 10 countries, including several OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation, and expressing condolences to the bereaved,

In order to contribute to an international response to this tragedy and desiring a full and credible account of this event,

Recalling the 18 July statements by the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office on the readiness of the OSCE to offer support, and by the Trilateral Contact Group,

Being guided by the OSCE commitments,

The Permanent Council:

1. Strongly supports the efforts of the Trilateral Contact Group to create conditions for a sustainable ceasefire, to be agreed swiftly, and to be observed by all concerned, thus putting an end to violence in eastern Ukraine;
2. Calls for immediate, safe and secure access to the site and surrounding area for the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and other representatives of relevant international organizations according to International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and other established procedures;
3. Calls upon all those in the area to preserve the crash site intact, including by refraining from destroying, moving, or disturbing wreckage, equipment, debris, personal belongings, or remains;
4. Supports the calls for an open, transparent and independent international investigation, in co-ordination with the ICAO, including with participation of technical and

forensic experts from the Ukrainian, Malaysian, and Dutch governments as well as other technical and forensic experts and relevant regional bodies;

5. Calls on all participating States and other actors to support the steps above and to refrain from any interference with an international investigation.

**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Ukraine:

“Mr. Chairperson,

The Delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement under paragraph IV.1(A)6 of the Rules of Procedure of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

Supporting the consensus on the Declaration on the Tragic Crash of the Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17 in Ukraine the Delegation of Ukraine would like to make the following interpretative statement:

We are all shocked over the 17 July crash of the civilian commercial aircraft, which was shot down by the pro-Russian terrorist organizations operating in the eastern Ukraine.

Shooting down a civilian aircraft is an act of international terrorism, targeted against the entire world. We strongly condemn this act of terror, which led to many casualties of innocent people, including children.

In accordance with the OSCE commitments, we, as the OSCE participating States, should all condemn terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Addressing threat of terrorism requires unified global response.

We urge the Russian Federation to immediately stop aggression against Ukraine, abide fully by its international obligations and commitments on combating terrorism, use its influence on pro-Russian terrorist organizations to lay down weapons, halt flows of weapons and mercenaries from the Russian Federation into Ukraine.

The Government of Ukraine has launched an immediate investigation and stands fully committed to conduct objective and transparent investigation in co-operation with the International Civil Aviation Organization, other relevant international organizations and foreign States.

We expect for an adequate response from the international community, including the OSCE, to this act of terrorism.

In search of peaceful resolution of the current situation in the east of Ukraine we support efforts at creating the necessary conditions. They have been envisaged in the Peace Plan of the President of Ukraine.

We invite other participating States to join this interpretative statement.

The Delegation of Ukraine requests that this statement be attached to the decision and recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairperson.”