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COMMENTS of the SECRETARY GENERAL OF NATO, CHAIRMAN OF THE NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL

on the

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS ADOPTED IN 2010 by the NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

International Secretariat

February 2011

on

INCORPORATING UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 1325 ON WOMEN AND PEACE AND SECURITY INTO NATO'S NEW STRATEGIC CONCEPT AND INTO ALLIANCE POLICIES AND PRACTICES^{*}

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** that, ten years ago, in October 2000, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) unanimously adopted Resolution 1325 on *Women and Peace and Security*, in which it reaffirmed the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, in peace-building and reconstruction;

2. **Underlining** that the background to this Resolution was the recognition that women are doubly affected by war and violent conflict, as they not only have to bear the horrors and hardships that accompany every war, but also to live in constant fear of forms of violence specifically targeted at them;

3. **Stressing** also the central and resolute role of women in wartime in supporting their families in the most difficult conditions, fighting for their rights, and taking responsibility for the welfare of their communities;

4. **Recognising** that UNSC Resolution 1325 is based on the conviction that equal participation of men and women is a means to prevent and resolve conflicts, and to promote lasting peace for all;

5. **Recalling** that UNSC Resolution 1325 urged Member States to ensure increased representation of women at all decision-making levels in national, regional and international institutions, as well as in mechanisms for the prevention, management and resolution of conflict, and to include a gender perspective in all peacekeeping and peacebuilding measures, including disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration, and security sector reform;

6. **Welcoming** the recommendation in the report by the NATO Group of Experts chaired by Ambassador Madeleine K. Albright, that NATO, as a political alliance, should co-operate with the United Nations on the implementation of UNSC Resolution 1325;

7. **Saluting** the measures already taken to implement UNSC Resolution 1325 within the Alliance, including the work of the Committee on Gender Perspectives, the appointment of gender advisors to Headquarters and operations, and the adoption of Bi-Strategic Command Directive 40-1 on Integrating UNSCR 1325 and Gender Perspectives in the NATO Command Structure Including Measures For Protection During Armed Conflict;

8. **Recalling** that the Assembly's contribution to the new Strategic Concept of the Alliance states that "[p]ursuing current efforts to mainstream gender issues in NATO activities could also contribute to operational effectiveness";

Presented by the Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security and adopted during the Plenary sitting on Tuesday 16 November 2010, Warsaw, Poland.

9. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance, and if appropriate, NATO institutions:

- a. to follow the recommendation of the NATO Group of Experts and, ten years after the adoption of UNSC Resolution 1325, to incorporate a gender-sensitive approach to peace and security policy into NATO's new Strategic Concept;
- b. to develop specific measures in support of the objectives set in UNSC Resolutions 1325 and 1820, and to include these in the implementation of NATO's new Strategic Concept;
- c. to co-operate closely with civil society organisations in implementing UNSC Resolution 1325 and draw on their expertise;
- d. to mainstream a gender equality perspective into the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of NATO-related policies and programmes, in order to incorporate fully the concerns and experiences of both women and men, and ensure that women and men can share the benefits equally;
- e. to strive to ensure that efforts to preserve and promote peace and security always take into account a gender perspective, and to support wholeheartedly all measures designed to involve women in the resolution of conflicts and protect them from violence;
- f. to ensure, in conflict zones where NATO is engaged, that local and regional women's groups and networks are informed of their rights and options, that they receive training as the need arises, and that they are involved as equal partners in negotiations and decision-making processes;
- g. to ensure that the particular needs of women are incorporated into the planning and conduct of operations through such measures as the appointment of gender advisers and human-rights observers, and to ensure that the personnel deployed to these missions are trained accordingly;
- h. to consider ways to increase the share of women personnel deployed to NATO operations whenever possible and appropriate;
- i. to press for the appointment of more women to leading positions within the United Nations and NATO; and,
- j. to make every effort to ensure that perpetrators of violence against women are consistently prosecuted.

I welcome the interest of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in UNSCR 1325 on women, peace and security. High-level commitment by nations is essential for the success of implementation.

Since 2007, the Alliance has demonstrated its commitment to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and related Resolutions with its partners. At the Lisbon Summit, the Heads of State and Government underlined the significant steps which had already been taken and endorsed a number of recommendations for the way ahead. The pragmatic approach to implementation includes:

1) Mainstreaming the Resolutions in policies, programmes and documentation;

2) Mainstreaming the Resolutions in all phases and aspects of operations and missions;

3) Enhancing cooperation with international organisations, such as the UN, NGOs and civil society;

4) Continuing to develop education and training in civilian and military frameworks; and

5) Maintaining a public diplomacy strategy.

An annual Secretary General's report on overall implementation has also been instituted, the first to be issued in October 2011. A progress report on implementation will be provided to Foreign Ministers in December 2011 and at the next Summit.

on

THE SITUATION IN GEORGIA

The Assembly,

1. **Commending** Georgian authorities on their efforts to further democratic reforms and, in particular, to fight corruption, build democratic institutions and engage opposition in decision-making;

2. Acknowledging the significant contribution of Georgia to the NATO mission in Afghanistan;

3. **Welcoming** the conduct of competitive and democratic local elections on 30 May 2010, which, according to international observers, marked progress towards meeting OSCE and Council of Europe commitments, despite significant remaining shortcomings;

4. *Welcoming* also the process of constitutional reform, but *regretting* that full use was not made of the advisory mechanism of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe;

5. **Deeply concerned** by the humanitarian situation in Georgia's occupied territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, as well as the ongoing denial of the right of return to Georgian populations displaced from the two regions;

6. **Welcoming** Russia's withdrawal of its troops from the Perevi area, but **concerned** about the ongoing tightening by Russian FSB Border Troops of procedures for crossing the Administrative Border Line;

7. **Deeply concerned** about the continuing failure by the Russian Federation to comply fully with the provisions of the EU-brokered Ceasefire Agreement, and particularly its failure to withdraw to the positions it held before the conflict;

8. **Profoundly disturbed** by the continued absence of international monitoring mechanisms inside the Georgian territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia following Russia's blocking of the extension of the OSCE and UN missions in Georgia;

9. *Welcoming* the important role that the EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia continues to play in monitoring implementation of the Ceasefire Agreement and in facilitating contacts between the sides;

10. *Welcoming* Georgia's State Strategy on Occupied Territories and the Action Plan for Engagement, both of which aim to engage communities in the two regions through constructive projects;

11. *Reaffirming* its attachment to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Georgia, as stated also in numerous UNSC Resolutions on the situation in Georgia;

12. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to reaffirm NATO's open door policy, the Bucharest Summit Declaration that Georgia will become a member of NATO, as well as the principle that all candidates should be judged on their own merits;

- 13. **URGES** all parties in the conflict:
- a. to abide by the principles of international law and implement fully the EU-brokered Ceasefire;
- b. to make full use of the Geneva process, as the only international forum bringing together all sides;
- c. to co-operate fully with the EUMM, including through participation in the Incident Prevention and Response Mechanism;

14. **URGES** the parliament and government of the Russian Federation, as well as the de facto authorities of Abkhazia, Georgia, and South Ossetia, Georgia:

- a. to reverse the results of what has been described as ethnic cleansing by the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on the Conflict in Georgia as well as by other international documents and allow the safe and dignified return of all internally displaced persons to their homes;
- b. to allow EUMM unimpeded access to the territory of the two regions;
- c. to ensure access to international humanitarian aid to those affected;
- 15. **URGES** the European Union:
- a. to reaffirm its commitment to the agreement on the EUMM regarding access for the EUMM to both sides of the administrative borderline as agreed between the then President of the European Council, Nicolas Sarkozy, and the Russian President, Dmitri Medvedev;
- b. to put the implementation of this agreement on the agenda of the coming EU-Russia summit;
- 16. **URGES** the parliament and government of Georgia to continue efforts to strengthen the rule of law and promote democratic reforms in all areas, particularly those that further engage the opposition.

I appreciate the attention the Parliamentary Assembly is giving to Georgia through its recommendation. The Lisbon Summit indeed reaffirmed NATO's Open Door policy, as well as all elements of the Bucharest Summit decision on Georgia's future membership in the Alliance.

Allied Heads of State and Government also reiterated their continued support to the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Georgia within its internationally recognised borders. Allies encouraged the participants in the Geneva talks to play a constructive role and to pursue peaceful conflict resolution. They also continued to call on Russia to reverse its recognition of the South Ossetia and Abkhazia regions of Georgia as independent states.

Allies stated their active support to Georgia's reform efforts. The NATO Liaison Office, which was inaugurated this autumn during my visit to Tbilisi, will help in maximising the assistance and support the Alliance is providing to Georgia.

The NATO-Georgia Commission (NGC) and the Annual National Programme are the right tools to further Georgia's top foreign policy priority of Euro-Atlantic integration. Within this framework, NATO, like the Parliamentary Assembly, will look closely at Georgia's efforts to strengthen the rule of law and promote democratic reforms. NATO is looking forward to another productive year of dialogue in the NGC and active cooperation, including through the NGC.

on

AFGHANISTAN TOWARDS TRANSITION*

The Assembly,

1. **Reaffirming** the crucial importance of the UN-mandated NATO mission in Afghanistan, and **noting** that the success of Afghan National Security Forces and the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) is vital to the security of our nations and the future welfare of the Afghan people;

2. **Stressing** the strategic importance of preventing Afghanistan from becoming once again a haven for international terrorism or a destabilizing feature in a strategically vital region;

3. *Commending* the performance of our soldiers and citizens in most demanding conditions and *honouring* those who have lost their lives or have been injured;

4. **Commending further** the Afghan forces that are increasingly taking the lead in security operations and withstanding high casualty rates;

5. *Wholeheartedly supporting* the successful efforts of NATO forces to reduce civilian casualties, while *regretting* the accidental deaths of Afghan civilians caused by some Allied operations;

6. **Strongly condemning** the insurgency's tactics of deliberately targeting non-combatants and routinely using them as a shield to cover their own activity;

7. *Welcoming* the Afghan First Policy that aims at facilitating procurement of local goods and services through simplified bidding and contracting procedures in Afghanistan;

8. **Stressing** that NATO's role in Afghanistan is ultimately limited to providing a safe and secure environment, and that efforts by other actors in the political and economic sectors will be required if an acceptable, comprehensive and sustainable outcome is to be achieved;

9. *Emphasising* the need for the government to be perceived as legitimate and competent by the Afghan people;

10. *Recognising* that capable, democratically-controlled and well-equipped Afghan national security forces are essential to fostering a safe and secure environment throughout the country;

11. *Further recognising* that NATO must continue to play a central role in training, equipping, and establishing forces which ultimately will be responsible for ensuring Afghan security for the long term;

^{*} Presented by the Defence and Security Committee and adopted during the Plenary sitting on Tuesday 16 November 2010, Warsaw, Poland.

12. *Understanding* that in the long term, there is no simple military solution to Afghanistan's problems, and that an Afghan-led political solution is absolutely essential;

13. *Stressing* the key importance of interaction with regional actors for the success of the ISAF mission, especially with the Russian Federation, the contributing Central Asian Republics and Pakistan which provide valuable support in transit;

14. *Emphasising* the need for more persistent and effective measures to combat illegal drug production and trafficking as a serious threat to peace and stability and a major financial source for terrorist and insurgent activities;

15. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance and NATO:

- a. to reaffirm their enduring and lasting commitment to assisting the government of Afghanistan in providing a secure and stable environment for its citizens;
- b. to support Afghan-led reconciliation efforts towards a political solution to the conflict;
- c. to encourage regional stakeholders to play a positive role in the future of Afghanistan;
- d. to carefully co-ordinate redeployment plans in order to avoid endangering the overall mission;
- e. to provide the personnel necessary to speed the professionalisation of the Afghan National Security Forces, in order to more effectively create the conditions for a transition to Afghan leadership at the appropriate time;
- f. to step up support for Afghan capacity-building efforts in the field of governance with a view to enhancing the Afghan government's ability to deliver services to its population, with a particular focus on the priority areas of justice, civil service and public administration, public finances and local governance;
- g. to better co-ordinate international assistance and channel it through Afghan institutions to the extent possible, conditional upon progress in the implementation of necessary reforms;
- h. to support the newly-elected parliament as it takes up its duties;
- i. to regularly and thoroughly review progress in the implementation of mutual commitments;
- j. to continue to enhance the co-ordination of international initiatives and programmes in support of governance;

- 16. **URGES** the Afghan authorities:
- a. to implement the time-bound, specific, results-oriented commitments taken at the London and Kabul Conferences in the key areas of peace and security, governance and development;
- b. to redouble efforts to eradicate corruption;
- c. to improve access to justice;
- d. to continue to strengthen sub-national governance and local institutional capacity;
- e. to review Afghan election procedures and processes, taking into account lessons learned from the presidential and parliamentary elections and recommendations from competent international bodies;
- f. to pursue concrete results in replacing opium poppy crops which are an important source of financing for the insurgency and arms trafficking; and,
- g. to work for the presence of women with equal rights in accordance with the Afghan Constitution in all Afghan institutions, including the security forces, in order to foster the democratic development of Afghan society.

At the Lisbon Summit, NATO nations and ISAF partners reaffirmed their enduring commitment to Afghanistan's security and stability, thus meeting the Assembly's primary exhortation to nations. In their statement on Afghanistan, all 48 ISAF nations reconfirmed their support for enhanced Afghan leadership, a comprehensive approach, and strong regional engagement as set out in the Strategic Vision agreed at Bucharest and reaffirmed at Strasbourg/Kehl.

Sustainable transition to greater Afghan security responsibility will be the focus of effort throughout 2011 and beyond. We expect a conditions-based transition process to begin in early 2011. This will also involve the better alignment of our assistance with Afghan national priority programmes, working through increasingly capable Afghan institutions.

Effective training and mentoring of the Afghan security forces is the ticket to sustainable, irreversible transition. The NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan is becoming increasingly effective in its development of the Afghan Army and Police, and in the last few months nations have pledged a considerable number of trainers to meet priority shortfalls. But further work is required. NATO nations and ISAF partners will need to commit more trainers, equipment and resources to further strengthen the Afghan security forces and thereby facilitate transition.

Irreversible transition requires robust and respected governance at the national and subnational level. NATO shares the Assembly's view of the need for strong international support for the newlyelected parliament as it takes up its duties. Equally, and based on decisions of December 2009 by Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Nations participating in ISAF, NATO/SAF will continue to support Afghan-led reconciliation and reintegration efforts. The Lisbon Declaration supports strongly the Assembly's position regarding the need for the Afghan government to do more, specifically concerning the implementation of electoral reform, improvement of the rule of law, and eradicating corruption.

Looking ahead, we believe that our strategy remains sound. Many challenges lie ahead, but there are signs of clear progress which validate our approach in Afghanistan.

But as Resolution 383 rightly points out, NATO's role in Afghanistan is ultimately limited to providing a safe and secure environment, and that efforts by other actors in the political and economic sectors will be required if an acceptable, comprehensive and sustainable outcome is to be achieved.

on

BUILDING A MORE STABLE AND PROSPEROUS INTERNATIONAL ORDER^{*}

The Assembly,

1. *Acknowledging* that the economic foundation of power is a central and not a peripheral factor in determining relations among States;

2. **Recognising** that a tectonic shift may be underway in the global economic balance of power that requires greater co-operation among nations to prevent the rising of major tensions and conflicts;

3. **Stressing** that the international monetary order is, in part, a reflection of global power relations and that solving current disagreements about exchange rate policies, including the undervaluation of the renminbi, will be of fundamental importance to obtaining an internationally acceptable rebalancing of economic relations among nations, and to avoid protectionism;

4. **Lamenting** the persistent failure of the governments of many NATO member countries to balance their budgets over the business cycle, a failure which has caused a rise in sovereign debt and left a number of Allied countries, and particularly the United States, economically vulnerable to, and ever more dependent upon, China;

5. **Conceding** that fiscal consolidation in NATO countries could have dire implications for national defence budgets and that, consequently, matching foreign and security goals with the means at hand will be more important than ever;

6. *Warning* that over the next 40 years, developed countries' share of the global population will fall by roughly 25% and that most of our societies will have aged significantly, thus putting ever greater pressures on national pension and healthcare systems and budgets;

7. **Understanding** that boosting productivity by improving national education systems will be a vital part of any effort to adjust to structural changes in the emerging international economic order;

8. **Recognising** that the global economic crisis has struck the world's poorest countries and pushed millions of people into poverty and greater insecurity - a dire humanitarian challenge that directly bears on the security of our own countries;

9. *Worrying* that aid commitments undertaken at Gleneagles are not being uniformly respected;

10. *Noting* that liberal democratic values continue to have enormous power and that this remains a great advantage for Western governments, which are the world's foremost exponents of these values;

Presented by the Economics and Security Committee and adopted during the Plenary sitting on Tuesday 16 November 2010, Warsaw, Poland.

- 11. URGES member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
- a. to work in concert to distinguish between genuine strategic threats that must be addressed forcefully and those tactical distractions that might squander power and wealth;
- b. to recognise the entire range of tools Western societies have at hand to build a more stable and prosperous international order, and to use these tools in the most cost-effective manner, in part, by working together for common ends;
- c. to recognise, therefore, that working multilaterally can help countries achieve more while spending less across a wide range of policy areas ranging from military spending to development assistance;
- d. to revive global trade talks aimed at fostering a more open trading system that will benefit both the developed and developing worlds;
- e. to fulfil the development spending commitments undertaken at Gleneagles;
- f. to undertake the kinds of structural changes that will help our governments balance national budgets over the natural course of the business cycle;
- g. to ensure that public spending is geared toward investing in long-term productivity rather than short-term consumption in order to maintain the critical edge needed to prosper in global markets;
- h. to work in concert to build a more stable international monetary order that both reflects current economic realities, and encourages and rewards sustainable macroeconomic policies;
- i. to improve our militaries' operational effectiveness even in an era of budget tightening, while co-ordinating this process within the Alliance, possibly through NATO's Defence Planning staff;
- j. to collaborate more deeply to address some of the world's most pressing security challenges, including terrorism, nuclear proliferation, illicit drug production and trafficking, climate change, overpopulation, food and water security, and meeting our collective energy needs;
- k. to engage with confidence rising powers, even those that do not share all our values, while endeavouring to inculcate these powers in those norms that we believe will foster greater global stability, development and prosperity;
- I. to co-operate more with those powers like Brazil, India, Japan and South Africa and that share our values and interests in global security; and,
- m. to do all in our power to ensure that we stay true to the values that animate this Alliance, including the rule of law, due process, freedom of expression and religion, open commercial relations, free markets, social solidarity and tolerance.

I welcome elements contained in Resolution 384. Security and economic prosperity are closely interlinked and NATO countries can not ensure one without the other. Allies are faced with the challenge of drastic cuts in their defence budgets, which, if not managed in a coordinated way, may affect their long-term ability to project power, protect their security and their populations' well-being.

Meanwhile, the emerging security environment is becoming more unpredictable and less stable, with threats such as proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, or cyber gaining more pertinence. In addition it becomes more interdependent, as emerging economic and military powers are entering the scene and are facing similar challenges to those we traditionally face. In light of these developments, through the adoption of the Strategic Concept, the Alliance is set to pursue three major objectives, which will ensure its dynamism well into the second decade of the 21 st Century.

Firstly, make the best out of the crisis, explore all the opportunities opening up. Economic challenges should be an occasion for all NATO countries to cut fat in their defence spending while becoming more efficient building muscle. Bilateral or multilateral cooperation schemes, which will benefit Allies, should be encouraged. Pooling of resources should be our primary target. In this respect, NATO and EU states should cooperate even more closely and avoid unnecessary duplication.

Secondly, strengthen the internal cohesion of the Alliance by building on our common values, our economic interdependence in order to reinforce our cooperation in the political, operational and capability fields.

Thirdly, expand our partnership relations so as to include all those states willing and able to work with the Alliance in order to jointly address the global emerging challenges and reduce the salience of competition.

on

THE INCREASING IMPORTANCE OF NATO PARTNERSHIPS*

The Assembly,

1. **Declaring** that close transatlantic policy co-operation and co-ordination have been pivotal in securing peace, prosperity and stability in the Euro-Atlantic area and that NATO remains indispensable to achieving this goal;

2. *Fully supporting* the decision of the Heads of State and government of the Alliance to update the Strategic Concept, and *appreciating* its inclusion in the consultation process for the update of NATO's Strategic Concept;

3. **Emphasising** that NATO's core mission remains collective defence, but **recognising** that today's security threats - including failed or failing states, regional instability, the spread of weapons of mass destruction, terrorism, cybercrime, and maritime piracy - are no longer confined to the Euro-Atlantic region but are global in nature and demand a comprehensive approach;

4. **Noting** that NATO remains the most successful and most powerful security organisation in the world but **underlining** that the Alliance depends on close and effective co-operation with various partners, including international organisations and civil actors, to ensure comprehensive security through economic reconstruction, political reconciliation, improved governance and the strengthening of civil society;

5. *Noting* also that the Alliance derives legitimacy from its adherence to the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations as underlined in the Washington Treaty;

6. *Acknowledging* that NATO has become one of the most important actors in international crisis management, the resolution of regional conflicts and peace missions;

7. **Reasserting** its determination to strengthen the European pillar of the Alliance and to support the building and strengthening of the European Union's Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) as part of the reinforcement of overall security and **urging** that CSDP enhance military capabilities and not adopt structures that unnecessarily duplicate those already existing within NATO;

8. **Stressing** that NATO's co-operation with the European Union holds enormous potential, but **recognising** that the common NATO-EU agenda remains far too restricted for two organisations that are founded on the same principles and values;

9. *Reminding* that NATO and the EU have broadly overlapping memberships and that both institutions draw from many of the same tax bases;

Presented by the Political Committee and adopted during the Plenary sitting on Tuesday 16 November 2010, Warsaw, Poland.

10. *Recognising* that the Russian Federation plays an important part in enhancing Euro-Atlantic and global security and *acknowledging* the achievements of the NATO-Russia Partnership;

11. **Acknowledging** that NATO's partnerships, such as the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council, the Partnership for Peace, the Mediterranean Dialogue, and the Istanbul Co-operation Initiative, are an increasingly important part of its approach to complex challenges in regions on the periphery of Europe and beyond and **applauding** the valuable contributions of NATO partners to NATO-led missions;

12. **Considering** that the promotion of the Alliance's common values is one of the driving forces behind NATO's co-operation with its partner countries and **noting** that enlarging and deepening NATO's partnerships promote co-operation, confidence and stability, as well as increasing members' and partners' capacities to address new security challenges;

13. **Convinced** that the further development of partnerships will be essential for the necessary adaptation of the Alliance to tackle future security challenges successfully;

- 14. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance:
- a. to intensify and expand the existing partnerships of the Alliance, particularly the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council and the Partnership for Peace as well as the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Co-operation Initiative;
- b. to deepen partnerships with countries outside the Euro-Atlantic region by formalising partnerships with countries that share the values of the Alliance and by expanding the list of shared activities while preserving the ability of each partner to form tailored co-operative relationships with the Alliance;
- c. to improve the co-ordination among Allies and with international organisations such as the European Union and the United Nations and to accord higher priority than in the past to conflict prevention in order to avoid having to deal with far more daunting post-conflict problems;
- d. to develop further wide-ranging co-operation with the Russian Federation, particularly in the military-to-military sphere, stressing that this partnership needs to rest on common values as well as on the principles stipulated in the Founding Act and the Rome Declaration, particularly the indivisibility of security, respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States and the peaceful resolution of conflicts; and,

15. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance and the European Union to contribute constructively to building a more effective partnership that establishes a formal NATO-EU framework which will also deepen the NATO-EU dialogue on civil relief policy, aid, post-conflict reconstruction, police and judicial support so that both institutions are better prepared to work together in crisis-torn regions.

I especially welcome your resolution on the increasing importance of partnerships, a priority I intend to take forward expeditiously in the coming months. The Lisbon Summit declaration gave a clear tasking to develop a more efficient and flexible partnership policy, in time for the Foreign Ministers meeting in April 2011.

The Alliance is committed to developing a more coherent, overarching policy for partnership, within which the existing relationships can develop while new ones can emerge. NATO will promote a comprehensive network of security relationships with partners, old and new, through flexible formats across and beyond existing frameworks.

In line with the Strategic Concept, existing, specific multilateral frameworks of the EuroAtlantic Partnership Council and Partnership for Peace, the Mediterranean Dialogue and the Istanbul Cooperation Initiative will be further developed, carrying forward the important achievements of NATO's partnership policy in both political dialogue and practical cooperation.

At the same time, NATO is prepared to develop political dialogue and practical cooperation with any nation or relevant organisation across the globe that shares our interest in peaceful international relations. NATO will be open to consultation with any partner country on security issues of common concern. NATO will give its operational partners a structural role in shaping strategy and decisions on NATO-led missions and operations to which they contribute.

on

PARTNERING WITH RUSSIA ON WMD SECURITY AND MISSILE DEFENCE^{*}

The Assembly,

1. *Convinced* that genuine partnership between NATO and the Russian Federation is an important factor of global security;

2. *Hopeful* that statements on resetting relationships between the Euro-Atlantic community and the Russian Federation will be translated into concrete co-operation policies that will enhance the global security landscape;

3. *Mindful* that the Alliance and the Russian Federation share a number of security concerns, in particular the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) as well as ballistic missile technology and other means of delivery;

4. *Acknowledging* the reputation of the Russian Federation as a reliable and responsible partner in the field of nuclear non-proliferation and arms control;

5. **Acknowledging also** that nuclear security is one of the key elements of the co-operation framework with the Russian Federation, and that the vision of the world without nuclear weapons – or even the WMD-free world – could serve as a common long-term objective of the partnership;

6. **Endorsing** the initiative to develop NATO territorial missile defence capability and **emphasising** that the territorial missile defence proposal by the United States for Europe does not represent a threat to Russia's nuclear deterrence capability, but rather a unique opportunity to establish effective and meaningful co-operation designed to better protect the people and territories of NATO Allies and the Russian Federation from ballistic missile threats;

7. **URGES** governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance and the Russian Federation:

- a. to agree on a coherent and focused co-operation agenda aimed at reducing global threats stemming from proliferation of WMD and ballistic missiles and other means of delivery;
- to redouble their joint efforts to strengthen the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) by balanced implementation of the 2010 NPT Review Conference follow-on actions, pressing for universalisation of the Additional Protocol to the IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) Safeguards Agreement and effectively addressing cases of noncompliance;
- to co-operate more closely on elaborating more efficient verification and confidence-building methods for the reduction of nuclear warheads as well as engaging both nuclear and non-nuclear weapon States in order to build international confidence in arsenal reductions;

^{*} Presented by the Science and Technology Committee and adopted during the Plenary sitting on Tuesday 16 November 2010, Warsaw, Poland.

- d. to strengthen co-ordination of policies towards the Islamic Republic of Iran, including ensuring the implementation of the UNSC Resolution 1929;
- e. to co-operate closely to achieve an early, peaceful and comprehensive resolution of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea nuclear issue and a complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean Peninsula;
- f. to ensure adequate funding of chemical weapons destruction programmes and to explore ways of invigorating the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention with a robust enforcement mechanism;
- g. to explore ways of streamlining the architecture of numerous multinational non-proliferation initiatives designed to prevent the acquisition of nuclear weapons and related materials by non-State actors;
- h. to develop an effective missile defence partnership, including sharing assets and data, and co-operating on joint missile threat assessment;
- to co-operate more closely on the issue of curbing proliferation of missiles and other means of delivery by strengthening the Missile Technology Control Regime, the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation and universalisation of the INF (Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces) Treaty;
- j. to reaffirm the commitment to and adequate financing for the co-operative threat reduction programmes and the G8 Partnership Against the Spread of Weapons and Materials of Mass Destruction programmes;
- k. to work together to promote development of multilateral approaches to the nuclear fuel cycle and mechanisms that guarantee supplies;

8. **URGES** the leadership of the North Atlantic Alliance to acknowledge the potential contribution of missile defence to Alliance cohesion and to its partnership with the Russian Federation; and,

9. **URGES** parliaments of the United States and of the Russian Federation to ratify the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty).

As pointed out in the new Strategic Concept, the modern security environment contains a broad and evolving set of challenges. One of the essential core tasks of the Alliance in this respect is Cooperative Security, according to which the Alliance will engage actively to enhance international security through, inter alia, partnership with relevant countries and other international organisations, as well as by contributing actively to arms control, disarmament and nonproliferation.

The Lisbon Summit Declaration emphasized that NATO-Russia cooperation is of strategic importance, as reflected by the meeting of the NATO-Russia Council (NRC) at the level of Heads of State and Government in Lisbon. In light of common security interests, the Alliance is determined to build a lasting and inclusive peace, together with Russia, in the Euro-Atlantic area. We need to share responsibility in facing up to common challenges, which we have jointly identified. We want to see a true strategic partnership between NATO and Russia, and we will act accordingly, with the expectation of reciprocity from Russia. Over the past year, NATO-Russia cooperation has progressed and produced notable results.

The NRC Summit welcomed, in particular, the completion of the Joint Review of 21st Century Common Security Challenges which, among other areas, identified the possibilities for practical cooperation in the field of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery. We will certainly continue to discuss the ballistic missile threat assessment, including global trends in the proliferation of ballistic missiles, relevant missile programmes and intentions of countries of proliferation concern.

I wholeheartedly agree with the NATO Parliamentary Assembly's conclusion that territorial missile defence for Europe does not represent a threat to Russia, but rather a unique opportunity to establish effective and meaningful co-operation. In this context, we are very pleased with the outcome of the NRC Summit in Lisbon, where our Heads of State and Government laid down the foundations for a truly strategic partnership between NATO and Russia. Specifically, the agreement to pursue discussion on missile defence cooperation, including through a comprehensive Joint Analysis and the resumption of cooperation on theatre missile defence, are a good illustration of the new atmosphere. Work on how to take both of these initiatives forward has already started and will continue throughout 2011 at both Ambassadorial and Working Group level.
