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NATO Parliamentary Assembly

DRAFT DECLARATION

on

THE DISPOSAL OF SURPLUS WEAPONS AND MUNITIONS IN UKRAINE

presented by

Pierre LELLOUCHE (France)
President, NATO Parliamentary Assembly

The Assembly,

1. **Recalling** its long-standing co-operation with the Verkhovna Rada;
2. **Applauding** Ukraine's programme of wide ranging political, economic, and defence reforms and the progress being made regarding their implementation;
3. **Supporting** Ukraine's goal of Euro-Atlantic integration; and
4. **Determined** to assist Ukraine in achieving that goal;
5. **Welcoming** NATO's programme of Intensified Dialogue with Ukraine, and the further enhancement of Alliance support for Ukraine's defence and security sector reform process agreed by Defence Ministers during Informal High-Level Consultations in Vilnius, 23 and 24 October;
6. **Strongly supporting** the Alliance's €25 million commitment through its Partnership for Peace Trust Fund to assist Ukraine in disposing of stockpiles of surplus weapons and munitions in order to reduce the physical hazards and environmental threats posed by these weapons and munitions;
7. **But concerned** that this twelve-year programme represents only a partial solution to dealing with the stockpiles, which include over 1.5 million small arms, more than one million tons of munitions, and several million anti-personnel mines;
8. **And noting** that despite widespread public support for reform in Ukraine, large sectors of public opinion retain an image of NATO based on Cold War stereotypes;
9. **Convinced** that deeper Alliance involvement in assisting Ukraine to dispose of surplus weapons and munitions stockpiles would have the additional benefit of helping to promote a more positive public perception of the Alliance;

10. **URGES** member governments and parliaments of the North Atlantic Alliance to:
 - a. examine ways in which they can provide further bilateral technical and financial assistance to Ukraine in order to accelerate the disposal of surplus weapons and munitions;
 - b. increase their commitments to NATO's Partnership for Peace Trust Fund dedicated to the disposal of surplus weapons and munitions.
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