



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF MONTENEGRO

10th Workshop on Military Base Conversion



*Co-sponsored by
Austria*

*Co-organized with
Ministry of Defence of Montenegro*

Dates	23 - 26 June 2009
Venue	Podgorica (Montenegro) – The Hotel “CRNA GORA”
Background	<p>The joint Ministerial Meeting on Defence Conversion, held in Bucharest on 31st March 2005, acknowledged that most Southeast European (SEE) countries had been facing similar challenges in the context of ongoing armed forces reforms, resulting in base closures, relocation of military units, separation of redundant military personnel, destruction or sale of the military surpluses, and the restructuring of military industries. In this perspective, they agreed to use the existing RACVIAC capacities to build up appropriate regional support networks, incorporate the know-how on defence conversion, and promote an integrated donors approach. Therefore, they proposed the establishment of three respective Working Groups (WGs). The WG2 on Military Base Conversion (MBC) is one of them. The unique approach to MBC by Montenegro has already resulted in one successfully implemented MBC project and two others in their initial phases. The regional countries will have an opportunity to study this approach and analyze the possibilities of its incorporation into their domestic MBC processes.</p>
Purpose & Objectives	<p>The purpose of the WG2 workshop is to bring together respective representatives from relevant ministries, regional and local authorities, international organizations, NGOs, financial institutions and businesses with a view to discussing all the aspects of MBC. The objectives supporting this purpose are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To gather participants from the relevant governmental branches and NGOs involved in WG2 work;• To learn about principles and standards applied in conversion of former military bases and about challenges in their implementation;• To increase the coordination of governmental, municipal, business and community efforts in order to facilitate achievement of the conversion goals;• To connect the possibilities of the military base conversion and transition of military personnel with the context of employment opportunities;• To evaluate overall WG2 progress.
Participants	<p>Approximately 40 participants, up to two participants from the permanent member countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Moldova, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia*, Montenegro, Romania and Serbia; as well as other interested countries, relevant international organizations and partners dealing with WG2 issues.</p>
Methodology	<p>The workshop will comprise a combination of main topic lectures, individual presentations, a field study trip and open discussions (exchange of knowledge and experience - lessons learned). The field study trip will provide participants with the real life practical examples of the applied military base conversion projects.</p>
POC	<p>LTC Railean Sergiu, subject matter expert, Tel.: 00385 1 3330 870; E-mail: srailean@racviac.org Web: www.racviac.org</p>

* Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.