



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION



ORGANIZATION FOR THE PROHIBITION  
OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS

## Chemical Weapons Convention Seminar

co-organized with

Organization for Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)

<b>Dates</b>	15 - 19 February 2010
<b>Venue</b>	RACVIAC-Rakitje, Stari hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia
<b>Background</b>	<p>The seminar focuses on the provisions of the Chemical Weapons Convention. It has been organized annually since 2004 in cooperation with OPCW. The OPCW came into existence on 29 April 1997, at the entry into force of the CWC. The CWC has four principal objectives: the elimination of chemical weapons and the capacity to develop them; the verification of chemical non-proliferation; international assistance and protection in the event of CW use; and international cooperation in peaceful use of chemical substances. This seminar serves as a forum for enhancing the building of regional capacity in the fight against CW. It also provides an opportunity to discuss practical challenges in building a response system employed in a scenario of CW use or the threat of use. Each year the purpose of the seminar is different. For example, in 2009 it was to inform about and execute training in the Verification Information System (VIS) and the Declaration Tool for National Authorities (EDNA). The 2010 seminar is the continuation of a fruitful cooperation between RACVIAC and OPCW in promoting the implementation of the CWC in SEE, which directly helps in enhancing regional stability, transparency and trust.</p>
<b>Purpose &amp; Objectives</b>	<p>The purpose of this seminar is to discuss relevant issues related to CWC.</p> <p>The seminar objectives are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• To clarify any uncertainties in the submissions of Article X obligations of the CWC by the Member States to the OPCW;</li><li>• To inform the participants about OPCW's contribution to global anti-terrorism efforts;</li><li>• To emphasize the importance of capacity building in the fight against Chemical Weapons Agents (CWA) and Toxic Industrial Chemicals (TIC), through projects on national and regional levels;</li><li>• To analyse updates on preparedness for Investigation of Alleged Use (IAU) and Delivery of Assistance (DA) operations;</li><li>• To talk about regional support during IAU and DA in the field; (ASSISTEX 3 exercise in Tunisia);</li><li>• To inform about the assistance offered by countries in the region under the Article X of CWC as well as their preparedness, reaction time, and provision of logistic support;</li><li>• To execute training with table exercises on Delivery of Assistance operations;</li></ul>
<b>Participants</b>	Approximately 30-40 participants from SEE and OSCE countries, both senior and junior military and civilian recommendation makers, dealing with CWC issues and responsible for escorting inspections from the Secretariat of OPCW. The content of this seminar will be of particular interest to members of National Authorities dealing with declarations. The speakers will be the representatives of OPCW.
<b>Methodology</b>	The duration of the seminar is 4 days. It will include presentations, discussions and exercises. The seminar will provide an appropriate setting and atmosphere to encourage focused discussions. The seminar working language will be English (STANAG 3332).
<b>POC</b>	Lieutenant Colonel Konstantinos Alexopoulos, Tel.: 00385 1 333 0 822, Fax: 00385 1 333 0 829; E-mail Address: <a href="mailto:kalexopoulos@racviac.org">kalexopoulos@racviac.org</a> , Web: <a href="http://www.racviac.org">www.racviac.org</a> .