I. INTRODUCTION

According to the RACVIAC programme 2008 the Training & Verification Division organized and executed the Course C-04 from the 26th May – 6th June 2008.

The purpose of this Course was to instruct designated individuals on how to successfully perform their duties as inspectors and/or escorts pursuant to Dayton Agreement, Article IV and to establish a common approach to the Agreement in order to ensure mutual trust and confidence as well as transparency during the performance of their tasks.

The Seminar C-04/2008 was conducted in two phases:

- Theoretical phase (26 – 31 May 2008) in Rakitje
- Practical phase (01-06 June 2008) in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

II. PROGRAM/METHODOLOGY

The course consisted of a theoretical phase (1st week) and a practical phase (2nd week).

The theoretical phase focused on presentations providing the participants with the general information on the history of Arms Control and the Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA) as well as the necessary information about the Article IV. The practical phase included training inspections on two different sites, enabling the participants, divided in two teams, to practice both roles, the role of inspector as well as of the escort.

a) Course Objectives were

- To provide the participants with all necessary information on the Dayton Peace Agreement (DPA) and especially about the Article IV;
- To give to the participants the opportunity to get practical training for the role of inspector and escort in the frame of the DPA.
b) Participation

Twenty-three participants from ten countries and different organizations attended the course, namely from: Austria (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Croatia (5), Germany (1), Hungary (1), Montenegro (3), Serbia (2), Switzerland (2) and DTRA/USA (1).

The seminar was conducted with the assistance of eight lecturers, coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Croatia (1), Germany (1), Serbia (1), United Kingdom (1), PSOTC (1) and DTRA/USA (1).

In total 31 participants representing 12 countries or organizations attended this course.

c) Overview of the Course

RACVIAC conducted the Course on Dayton Article IV, in cooperation with OSCE for the 14th time. The Course was conducted in English language with simultaneous translation to local languages during both phases.

The theoretical phase included the following topics:

- Information about OSCE and the history of Arms Control and the DPA;
- Detailed analysis of the Article IV;
- Overview of CFE Treaty and comparison with Dayton Article IV;
- Preparation of the 1st training inspection;
- Practical exercise on Point of Entrance (POE) procedures.

During the practical phase the participants were divided in two teams and conducted two training inspections. They practiced performing their duties both as members of inspection and escort teams on two different Objects of Inspection (OOI) in Orašje and Bjeljina (Bosnia and Herzegovina) under the following procedures:

- Preparation of the inspection
- Execution of the Inspection
III. SUMMARY/RECOMMENDATIONS

According to the participants` assessments provided at the end of the event, the course proved successful, most interesting and well organized. They considered it valuable for their continuing work. They all agreed on the necessity of conducting these kinds of courses in the future aimed at contributing to the security and confidence building measures in the region.

Issues to be highlighted:

- The invited lecturers covered the theoretical part of the Agreement in a satisfactory way. Their professionalism and experience were highly appreciated by the participants. However, a few presentations were not fully updated. Two lecturers, one from Croatia and one from Serbia, were present during the practical phase as observers.

- Participants’ interest and motivation were very high, probably due to the fact that most of them had low or no experience in arms control. During the practical phase, participants showed an exceptional professionalism in performing their mission both as Inspectors and Escorts and demonstrated a remarkable cooperation, thus fulfilling the standards of a real Inspection.

- Generally, the participants were satisfied with the topics chosen. They recommended having some syndicate work and practical exercise on the formats they have to fill in, during the theoretical phase, in order to be well prepared for the practical phase. Thus, it might be necessary for the next year to add one more day to the theoretical phase in order to have more periods for syndicate work (start on Monday instead of Tuesday).

- The practical phase of the Course was well-organized thanks to the preparation of the Declared Sites and the work of the local escorts, as well as the good and close cooperation between RACVIAC and the Ministry of Defense and Verification Centre of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

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Inspection in Bjeljina