Introduction

Pursuant to the RACVIAC 2010 Programme, the Cooperative Security Environment Pillar carried out the Course “Dayton Article IV” CSE-04-C in the period of 03 – 07 May 2010. The Course was organized in cooperation with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Office of the Personal Representative of the Chairman-in-Office for Article IV of the Dayton Peace Accords. It was carried out in English language with simultaneous translation to local languages.

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

Course Participants

The Course objectives were:

- To inform and educate the participants on the Dayton Peace Agreement, with a particular focus on the Article IV;
- To train the participants in the role of inspectors and escorts in the framework of the Dayton Peace Agreement.

Twenty-one participants from seven countries and organizations attended the course, namely from: Bosnia and Herzegovina (5), Croatia (3), Germany (3), Montenegro (2), Serbia (3), Slovenia (1), United Kingdom (1) OSCE (1) and PSOTC (1). They represented relevant Ministries and Agencies involved in the Arms Control Regime of Dayton Article IV.

Opening session

The course was conducted with the assistance of nine lecturers, coming from Bosnia and Herzegovina (2), Croatia (1), Germany (1), Montenegro (1), Serbia (1), United Kingdom (1), PSOTC (1) and OSCE (1).
The course lasted 5 days and it consisted of a theoretical (first three days) and a practical (one day) part, with the debriefing on the 5th day. The theoretical part focused on lectures about the history of Arms Control and the Dayton Peace Agreement. The practical part included training inspection on a declared site - Petrinja, Barracks “Puk. P. Matanović”, enabling the participants, divided into two teams, to practice both the roles of inspectors and escorts.

The Execution

The Course was opened by welcoming remarks from Ambassador Nikola TODORČEVSKI, Director of RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation.

Inspection in Petrinja

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 to Dayton Article IV
- Preparation of the training inspection
- Practical advice about inspection procedures

During the practical part the participants were divided into two teams. Each team conducted the training inspection - one as the inspection team and one as the escort team in one OOI (Object of Inspection) under the following procedures:

- Preparation of the inspection
- Execution of the Inspection

Conclusion

According to the participants’ assessments provided at the end of the event, the course proved successful, very interesting and well organized. Generally, they were satisfied with the topics chosen and considered the overall course very valuable for their future 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.

The lecturers covered the theoretical part of the Agreement in a satisfactory way. Their professionalism and experience were highly appreciated by the participants. Two lecturers, one from Bosnia and Herzegovina and one from Croatia, were observers during the practical part in Petrinja.

End of Inspection in Petrinja

Participants’ interest and motivation were very high, probably due to the fact that most
of them had low or no experience in inspection procedures. During the practical part, participants showed exceptional professionalism in performing their mission both as inspectors and escorts and demonstrated a remarkable cooperation, thus fulfilling the standards of a real Inspection. The experienced observers expressed very positive comments about the participant’s progress.

*Course Participants during the Practical part*

The practical part of the Course was well-organized thanks to the preparation of the Declare Site, as well as the good and close cooperation between RACVIAC and the General Staff and Verification Centre of the Republic of Croatia.

Compiled by: Lieutenant Colonel Konstantinos Alexopoulos, RACVIAC - CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

RACVIAC - CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION
at
www.racviac.org