SEMinar on the implementation of the Convention on cluster munitions
Co-organized with
the Government Office for Mine Action of the Republic of Croatia

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<th>Dates</th>
<th>14 - 16 November 2016</th>
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<td>Venue</td>
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**Background**
The Convention on Cluster Munitions was opened for signature in Oslo, Kingdom of Norway, on 2 December 2008. By February 2010, 30 ratification procedures that were required were completed and the Convention entered into force on 1 August 2010, thereby becoming an international legally binding document.

With a view to encouraging the States Parties to the Convention to fulfil their international obligations under the Convention and recognizing the need for international cooperation and assistance, RACVIAC - Centre for Security Cooperation and its partner have decided to co-organize a Seminar on the implementation of the Convention in South-Eastern Europe.

**Purpose & Objectives**
The purpose of this Seminar is to share the latest developments related to the implementation of the Convention on Cluster Munitions.

The objectives of the Seminar are:
- To provide the participants with an overview of the First Review Conference of the Convention on Cluster Munitions held in Dubrovnik, Republic of Croatia, on 7-11 September 2015
- To inform the participants about the results of the Sixth Meeting of States Parties (6MSP) to the Convention on Cluster Munitions which took place in Geneva, Switzerland from 5 to 7 September 2016
- To provide a forum for discussion on the implementation of the Convention in South-Eastern Europe with a focus on the progress made in the destruction of stockpiled cluster munitions, the need for broader universalization efforts, particularly in the light of continued use of cluster munitions in armed conflicts and, finally, to emphasize the overall commitment to implement the Dubrovnik Action Plan in the next five years with a special focus on international and regional cooperation and needs for support from outside the region.

**Participants**
Approximately 30 participants, representing different countries, relevant ministries, agencies and organizations are expected to attend, namely three (3) from each of the following countries: Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Republic of Croatia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Republic of Serbia and one (1) from the Hellenic Republic, Romania and Republic of Turkey (each). In addition to the above-listed, attendees from all other Associate Members, Observers and Participants are invited to attend the Seminar.

Lecturers include experts willing to share their expertise and experiences, coming from different cluster munitions-affected and non-affected states, as well as renowned international organizations from both the governmental and non-governmental sectors.

* The Republic of Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.
The event will take place in the form of a Seminar. It will give national and international experts, representatives of governmental and non-governmental organizations an opportunity to share their experience and jointly address challenges concerning the implementation of the Convention with focus on retention and destruction. Participants from States Parties to the Convention are kindly asked to deliver a short presentation about the situation regarding the stocking, destruction and overall cluster munitions management or the fulfilment of the requirements of the Convention in their countries. Participants from the non-signatory States to the Convention on Cluster Munitions are warmly invited to share their views on the possibility of accession to the Convention and, if willing, to present their positions regarding the Convention and its obligations in general. The working language of the Seminar is English.

Member States are kindly informed that RACVIAC encourages all lecturers to submit written essays on their area of expertise to be referred to during their presentation at the RACVIAC activity. Most prominent and current essays will then be published in the “RACVIAC Compendium – Assortment of RACVIAC Prominent Lecturers’ Insights” that will be issued at least once a year, preferably at the beginning of the year for the year preceding but with an option and aim to become semi-annual if input and interest of the targeted audience is satisfactory.

Understanding the additional effort and time needed to be put into the writing of this essay, RACVIAC will stimulate it with an amount of 100 euros per essay. The essays should comprise at least 1500 words and should be submitted electronically and in the hard copy version to RACVIAC before the actual lecture or presentation is given. The author of the submitted essay should give his/her written permission to RACVIAC to publish the essay in the “RACVIAC Compendium” waiving future claims or compensations towards RACVIAC.

Mr Pál BÓDOGH-SZABÓ, Tel.: 00 385 1 333 0 827; Fax: 00 385 1 333 0 829; E-mail address: pbszabo@racviac.org; Web: www.racviac.org.