CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

PHYSICAL SECURITY AND STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT SEMINAR

in cooperation with
the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria

Dates 16-18 May 2016
Venue Rakitje, Zagreb, Republic of Croatia

Background Surplus of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Conventional Ammunition (CA) that exceeded its shelf life presents a continued threat to people, the environment and overall security. In 2015, together with the Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports of the Republic of Austria, RACVIAC organised a workshop that dealt with experiences and pressing issues in Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM). Apart from this, the 2016 seminar will be based on checking the further possibilities in the field of capacity building. The seminar will evaluate the options for regional cooperation in a strict and broader sense of the word. Through this type of cooperation countries will not only be able to discuss individual issues and solutions in capacity building, but also provide training assistance to each other by using RACVIAC as a joint platform.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of the seminar is to discuss the possibilities of potential cooperation with the purpose of improving managerial, systematic and infrastructural aspects of PSSM.

The PSSM seminar objectives are:

- To bring together professionals and experts in the field, namely SALW experts within the military and national MoDs, Commanders of storage sites, etc.;
- to bring together academics who are experts for physical security, stockpile and material reserve management;
- to present and discuss PSSM practices in different countries, particularly issues within those practices and potential solutions;
- to indicate differences and common points in national defence policies with regard to PSSM;
- to evaluate the possibility of using RACVIAC as a platform and intermediary for regional cooperation regarding PSSM;
- to increase overall operational and problem solving capabilities regarding PSSM in the region;
- to examine the possibilities to improve overall cooperation among the countries of the SEE region in general (RACVIAC, OSCE and others);
- to envisage how to improve the efficiency of work on PSSM-related issues within the national authorities, ministries and agencies;
- to overview the assistance provided and cooperation coordinated by or involving international organisations;
- among others to search for further tools to improve the work in the field of capacity building.
Participants

Approximately 30 participants (employees of governmental organizations and agencies involved in the management of national stockpiles of SALW/CA) are welcome to attend the seminar (designed for mid to high-level officials at a managerial level), 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 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.

Requirements:
1. The Participants should be at least staff officers and persons who play key roles in the SALW/AC management cycle.
2. They should hold Major to Colonel ranks (O-3 to O-5) and should be able to brief respective decision-makers (Generals) on SALW/CA matters.
3. Each participant should prepare a short presentation that should include their current position, their current responsibilities and expectations regarding this activity.
4. Each country (SNR) should give a briefing on the SALW/CA management cycle in the country.

Lecturers will represent ITF, OSCE, SAS, SEESAC, Halo Trust (TBD).

Methodology

The seminar will last two days and will be comprised of theoretical lectures/presentations and discussions whose purpose is to get the participants acquainted with international standards and, more importantly, ways and methods for enhancing regional cooperation in resolving PSSM issues.

At the end of the seminar a CD will be distributed containing material related to the seminar. The working language will be 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.

Point of Contact

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