



Towards a Sustainable Solution for Excess Weapons and Ammunition Policy, Logistical and Financial Aspects of Excess Weapons and Ammunition Disposal

Hosted by: Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Croatia

Co-organized by: International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance (ITF) and RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation

Pula, Croatia
30 May - 01 June 2011

AGENDA

The purpose of the Conference is to bring together representatives of logistics, policy/planning and finance departments in the MoDs of the regional countries and to provide them with an opportunity to exchange relevant information and experience regarding disposal of excess weapons and ammunition in order to facilitate development of a shared vision of future solution to this problem.

Objectives are:

- To briefly inform on the current status of stockpiles of excess weapons and ammunition and national capacities for excess weapons and ammunition disposal,
- To present relevant policies and plans for future, as well as to look into how well the process is connected with national cycle of defence budget planning and realization,
- To identify possible areas of cooperation in this field,
- To prepare relevant conclusions for the Defence Ministerial Meeting planned to be held in Slovenia at the June / July 2011.

Time	Event	Location
Sunday, 29 May		
by 14:00	Arrivals and gathering	RACVIAC, Hotel Rakitje
14:00-15:00	Lunch	RACVIAC Restaurant
15:00-19:15	Bus transportation from RACVIAC to Pula*	
19:15-20:00	Accommodation and refreshment	Croatian AF Club, Pula
20:00-22:00	Welcome dinner / Icebreaker	Croatian AF Club, Pula
Monday, 30 May		
09:00 – 09:05	Opening / welcome address by Director of RACVIAC – Centre for Security Cooperation, Ambassador Nikola Todorčevski	
09:05-09:15	Address by Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Mr. James FOLEY	Croatian AF Club, Pula, Conference Hall
09:15-09:25	Address by Minister of Defense of the Republic of Croatia, H.E. Mr. Davor BOŽINOVIĆ	
09:25-10:00	Keynote Speaker: Regional Approach to Stockpiles Reduction (RASR) Initiative (representative of the U.S. Department of State)	
10:00-10:30	Group Photo and Coffee Break	(Note: Location for the group photo TBD. Coffee break location TBD).
10:30-11:00	International Perspective: NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency (NAMSA) (TBD)	
11:00-11:30	International Perspective: Small Arms Survey, Geneva, Switzerland (TBD)	
11:30-12:00	Regional Perspective: International Trust Fund - ITF (TBD)	Croatian AF Club, Pula, Conference Hall
12:00-12:30	Regional Perspective: South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons - SEESAC (TBD)	
12:30-14:00	Lunch break	Restaurant ???
14:00-15:15	Exposés** by heads of Logistics Departments in MoDs: Part I. Countries in alphabetical order: AL, BA, BG, GR, HR (cca. 15 minutes per speaker)	Croatian AF Club, Pula, Conference Hall
15:15-15:30	Coffee break	Coffee break location TBD
15:30-17:00	Exposés** by heads of Logistics Departments in MoDs: Part II. Countries in alphabetical order: ME, MD, MK, RO, RS, TK (cca. 15 minutes per speaker)	Croatian AF Club, Pula, Conference Hall

17:00-17:15 Wrap-up of Day I
Croatian AF Club, Pula,
Conference Hall

Tuesday, 31 May

09:00-10:30 Exposés^{***} by representatives of policy / planning departments in MoDs: Part I.
Countries in alphabetical order:
AL, BA, BG, GR, HR (cca. 15 minutes per speaker)
Croatian AF Club, Pula
Conference Hall

10:30-11:00 Coffee break
Coffee break location TBD

11:00-12:30 Exposés^{***} by representatives of policy / planning departments in MoDs: Part II.
Countries in alphabetical order:
ME, MD, MK, RO, RS, TK (cca. 10 minutes per speaker)
Croatian AF Club,
Pula, Conference Hall

12:30-14:00 Lunch break
Restaurant ???

14:00-20:00 Trip to Brijuni

Wednesday, 01 June

09:00-10:30 Exposés^{****} by representatives of financial departments in MoDs: Countries in alphabetical order:
AL, BA, BG, GR, HR, ME, MD, MK, RO, RS, TK (cca. 8 minutes per speaker)
Croatian AF Club,
Pula, Conference Hall

10:30-11:00 Coffee break
Coffee break location TBD

09:30-12:00 Prepare conclusions and recommendations for Defence Ministerial Meeting planned to be held in Slovenia, June / July 2011
Croatian AF Club,
Pula, Conference Hall

12:00-13:30 Lunch break
Restaurant ???

13:30-18:00 Bus transportation from Pula to RACVIAC

18:00- Departure of participants

Notes:

* Conference participants can arrive to either Zagreb or Pula international airports. In both cases, the Conference organizers will provide transportation from the airport to RACVIAC Hotel in Rakitje or to the Croatian AF Club in Pula. Furthermore, in case of arrival to the Zagreb airport, after gathering of participants in RACVIAC Hotel and lunch, there will be a bus transportation organized from RACVIAC to Pula.

** Exposés by heads of logistics departments in MoDs should cover, but should not be limited to, the following issues: current status of national stockpiles of excess weapons and ammunition (rough amounts would be much appreciated), brief description of national disposal processes, national disposal capacities (type of ammunition that can be disposed and amounts that can be disposed per day), existing and identified possibilities for international cooperation in this area, problems encountered (i.e. legal, lack of national capacity to dispose certain types of ammunition, etc.).

*** Exposés by representatives of policy / planning departments in MoDs should cover, but should not be limited to, the following issues: ongoing AF restructuring efforts and its impact on stockpiles of excess weapons and

ammunition (i.e. will a result of the ongoing restructuring effort be production of additional amounts of excess weapons and ammunition, and will it favorably or adversely affect the existing national disposal capacities), plans for construction of new or reconstruction of existing weapons and ammunition storage sites in order to achieve adequate (NATO or other) standards.

Exposés by representatives of financial departments in MoDs should cover, but should not be limited to, the following issues: financial backing of the ongoing and future excess weapons and ammunition disposal processes, connection between plans for construction of new or reconstruction of existing weapons and ammunition storage sites and budget (i.e. are these projects recognized in the budget planning process), discrepancies between financial needs and wants.