



CENTRE FOR SECURITY COOPERATION

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Seminar on better defence resources management: “Pooling and sharing of defence capabilities as smart defence”

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Venue(s) RACVIAC-CSC, Zagreb

Background Due to the considerable impact of the financial crisis on European defence budgets in the last three years, the concept of pooling and sharing (P&S) of defence capabilities has become a topical issue in Europe. Practically none of the European, and for sure none of the South Eastern Europe (SEE) countries are able to maintain the full spectrum of defence capabilities autonomously. Consequently, defence resources management calls for better coordination of efforts among countries in order to enable accomplishing tasks with fewer resources, which in turn necessitates discovering new opportunities in the field of defence cooperation.

The issue of “pooling and sharing” of defence capabilities was put high on the European and Euro-Atlantic agendas in the first half of the year 2011. Furthermore, several remarkable events focusing on pooling and sharing or smart defence were also organized during the same period. Due to the fact that the majority of SEE countries are either NATO/EU members, candidates or PfP members it is apparent why the concept of pooling and sharing constitutes an important issue in their defence resources management, especially at this time of global financial crisis.

This Seminar is envisaged as a continuation of the process initiated during the “First Regional Meeting of Heads of Procurement Departments” within Ministries of Defence of the countries of SEE, which took place from 17 –18 April 2011 in Budva, Montenegro. The mentioned meeting, organised in cooperation with Montenegro as the then SECEP chairing country and the NATO Planning Division, identified pooling and sharing as an important segment of successful Security Sector Reform in SEE countries. Given the fact that not only the NATO or EU, but general European defence expenditure as well is significantly decreasing and that the downward trend is likely to continue, it is easy to see why the “pooling and sharing” and “smart defence” concepts represent the governing principle in defence sector, including SEE countries.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of this Seminar is to bring together participants of the Ministries of Defence from RACVIAC-CSC Member countries: AL, BA, HR, GR, ME, MK, RO, RS and TR as well as representatives from other MAG countries.

Most welcome are experts from NATO and the EU.

The Seminar is particularly designed for civilian officials and military personnel working in the field of defence policy, defence planning, defence capabilities and procurement.

Main objectives of the Seminar are:

- a) to introduce participants of the seminar to the phenomenon of “pooling and sharing”
- b) to provide clarification of the term “pooling and sharing” itself;
- c) to acquaint participants with some successful multinational projects/cases of implementation of “pooling and sharing” concept.

Participants are invited to:

- a)** provide a list of short, medium and long term procurement projects (both large and small scale) with details on whether these are already fully funded or not, and to indicate which projects require additional multinational cooperation if they are to be realised;
- b)** demonstrate willingness to seek concrete solutions in terms of overcoming obstacles in the process of the execution of future multinational procurement projects;
- c)** present examples and opportunities for “pooling and sharing” in multinational defence cooperation.

Participants Heads of Defence Procurement Departments from RACVIAC-CSC Member countries (AL, BA, HR, GR, ME, MK, RO, RS and TR), as well as other authorised civilian officials and military officers working in the field of defence policy, planning, and procurement.
Representatives from other MAG countries are also most welcome.
Total number of participants: 20 – 25.

Methodology Seminar will be based on theoretical aspects of the “pooling and sharing” concept, its definition and scope. During the second part of the seminar practical aspects of the ongoing and possible future multinational cooperation among SEE countries will be focused on.

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