

Second day of the Twentieth Meeting
MC(20) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 8

DECISION No. 8/13
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND STOCKPILES
OF CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION

The Ministerial Council,

Recognizing the importance of OSCE measures aimed at combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in all its aspects and at contributing to the reduction and prevention of the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW,

Willing to complement and thereby reinforce the implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, particularly by promoting co-operation, transparency and responsible action by participating States in the export and import of SALW,

Taking note of the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty,

Noting the United Nations Security Council focus on addressing the threats arising from illicit SALW and their destabilizing accumulations, and the importance of regional organizations to those efforts,

Noting the commitments contained in the outcome documents of the second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, which took place from 27 August to 7 September 2012 in New York, relating to the Programme of Action and to the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, and taking note of the active role taken by the OSCE in this area,

Recalling FSC Decision No. 8/08 and noting ongoing activity in the United Nations General Assembly on related issues,

Taking note of the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2106 (2013) and 2122 (2013) where relevant to the mandate of the FSC,

Acknowledging the important work the OSCE has accomplished in establishing recognized standards and best practices in SALW management and security and a possible contribution the voluntary use of other international standards could make in this regard,

Recognizing the continuing importance of OSCE measures aimed at addressing security risks and safety of stockpiles of SALW, SCA, explosive materials and detonating devices in surplus and/or awaiting destruction in some States in the OSCE area,

Also reaffirming the voluntary nature of the assistance provided by the OSCE participating States in the reduction of SALW, in the destruction after registration of surplus stockpiles of conventional ammunition and in the upgrading of stockpile management and security practices of participating States that request assistance in this regard,

Also reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1, 20 June 2012), the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (FSC.DOC/1/03/Rev.1, 23 March 2011), and related FSC decisions, including the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DEC/2/10, 26 May 2010),

1. Welcomes and takes note, within the Forum for Security Co-operation's activities since the 2011 Ministerial Council, of:
 - The reissuance of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and supplementary decisions as a consolidated record pursuant to Ministerial Council Decision No. 6/11;
 - The progress reports on the continuing implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and on the continuing implementation of the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition, as submitted to the Nineteenth and Twentieth Meetings of the Ministerial Council;
 - The OSCE Meeting to Review the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the Expert Level Session on Stockpile Management, Surplus Reduction and Destruction of Small Arms and Light Weapons;
 - The ongoing efforts of the FSC on improving the implementation of commitments set out in the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition, and related FSC decisions, including the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW;
 - The focused discussions in the Security Dialogue on topical security issues related to small arms and light weapons and stockpiles of conventional ammunition on such issues as OSCE assistance projects, work to strengthen co-operation in the field of SALW and SCA, consideration of the possible impact of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), capacity-building, action to address challenges related to SALW/SCA in Central Asia, consideration of the mapping study on the OSCE SALW commitments and also methodologies to assist and improve the annual exchange of information on SALW imports and exports;
 - The progress in and results of OSCE SALW and SCA projects;

- The inaugural conference on tracing illicit small arms and light weapons in the OSCE area, jointly organized with UNODA, UNODC and Interpol on 23 and 24 May 2013 in Vienna;
- 2. Tasks the Forum for Security Co-operation, in accordance with its mandate, in 2014, to:
 - Strengthen efforts aiming to ensure full implementation of existing measures and commitments set out in the OSCE Document on SALW, the OSCE Document on SCA, and related FSC decisions, including the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW;
 - Intensify efforts to further implement the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its aspects;
 - Ensure coherence and complementarity with the relevant United Nations framework, *inter alia*, taking account of the outcome documents of the Second Review Conference on the United Nations Programme of Action on SALW;
 - Discuss issues arising from SALW and SCA projects including, *inter alia*, issues pertaining to personnel and resources from participating States involved in such projects, with the aim of facilitating procedures for providing assistance to the OSCE participating States under the SALW and SCA mechanism;
 - Ensure the timely and full submission of OSCE SALW-related information exchanges, while making use of the reporting template introduced by the CPC for one-off information exchanges related to the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, including sample formats for national end-user certificates and/or other pertinent documents, regulations concerning brokering activities with regard to SALW and the annual information exchange on the points of contact on SALW and SCA;
 - Develop voluntary guidelines for compiling national submissions of information for the above-mentioned exchange, in order to improve the utility and relevance of the information provided;
 - Explore ways to review and, where appropriate, supplement the 2012 OSCE Document on SALW, the 2003 OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition and the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on SALW, as well as the 1993 CSCE Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers;
 - Exchange views and information and share best practices, on a voluntary basis and if relevant to the mandate of the FSC, on women's contributions to security and the possible impact of illicit SALW on women and children;
 - Explore ways to enhance outreach to the OSCE Partners for Co-operation on issues related to SALW and stockpiles of conventional ammunition;

- Take an active role in the Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;
 - Submit progress reports, through its Chairperson, to the Twenty-First Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2014 on these tasks and on the continuing implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition;
3. Invites the participating States to:
- Continue providing extrabudgetary contributions to support FSC assistance projects on SALW and SCA, either for a specific project or by providing resources and technical expertise to the OSCE's comprehensive programme on SALW and SCA;
 - Continue within the Security Dialogue discussions on the possible implications related to the prospective entry into force of the ATT.