

**Second day of the Twenty-Fourth Meeting**  
MC(24) Journal No. 2, Agenda item 7

**DECISION No. 10/17  
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND STOCKPILES  
OF CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION**

The Ministerial Council,

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

Reaffirming the commitments of the participating States as per the OSCE Documents on SALW (FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1, 20 June 2012) and SCA (FSC.DOC/1/03/Rev.1, 23 March 2011),

Willing to complement and thereby reinforce the implementation of the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA, particularly by promoting co-operation, transparency and responsible action by participating States in the export, import and brokering of SALW and conventional ammunition,

Remaining committed to undertaking efforts to address illicit trafficking of SALW and SCA and noting the threat posed by the illicit conversion, transformation or reactivation of SALW and mindful of the security and safety risks and threats in this regard,

Taking note of the Arms Trade Treaty, which entered into force in 2014,

Taking note of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Noting the United Nations Security Council's focus on addressing issues related to SALW and the importance of regional organizations to those efforts,

Recalling FSC Decision No. 8/08 and taking note of ongoing activities in the United Nations General Assembly on related issues,

Taking note of United Nations Security Council resolutions 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), and 2370 (2017) where relevant to the mandate of the OSCE Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Recalling Basel Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/14 on SALW and SCA,

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

Recalling Ministerial Council Declaration on OSCE Assistance Projects in the Field of SALW and SCA (MC.DOC/3/16),

Also recalling the broad range of OSCE assistance in the field of SALW and SCA,

Taking note of the efforts of the OSCE executive structures for SALW/SCA project management, including through the related OSCE trust fund repository programmes, encourage them to continue to promote co-ordination and assessment of progress with the view to enhancing synergies and avoiding duplication and call upon them to further assist participating States in implementing projects in an efficient and transparent manner, in accordance with the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA and relevant FSC decisions,

Commending the successful projects conducted by the OSCE on the destruction of surplus SALW and SCA while recognizing in this regard the importance of appropriate sustainable national SALW and ammunition management structures and procedures in participating States where projects are being conducted,

Recalling FSC Decision No. 2/16 on enabling the provision of assistance to OSCE Partners for Co-operation and welcoming FSC-related activities on SALW and SCA with the OSCE Partners for Co-operation in the context of the FSC and using procedures outlined in the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA,

1. Welcomes the OSCE Meeting to Review the implementation of OSCE assistance projects in the field of SALW and SCA and takes note of other related FSC activities since the 2016 Ministerial Council:
  - The ongoing efforts of the FSC aimed at improving the implementation of 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 (FSC.DEC/2/10, 26 May 2010);
  - The conduct of capacity-building events at the national, regional and OSCE-wide level on SALW and SCA to enhance the full implementation of OSCE-relevant commitments;
  - The focused discussions in the Security Dialogues on national projects, improving the physical security and stockpile management of SALW and conventional ammunition, measures to prevent uncontrolled spread of SALW, regional efforts in combating the illicit trade of SALW, and sharing international and national experience in the field of management of SCA and destruction of its surplus;

- Efforts by the Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) to ensure coherence and complementarity with the relevant United Nations framework aimed at, *inter alia*, enabling the synchronization and implementation for voluntary online submission of national implementation reports on SALW to the OSCE and the United Nations;
  - The Implementation Meeting on Deactivation of SALW (SEC.GAL/181/17), recognizing the specific threat posed by the illicit conversion, transformation, or reactivation of SALW, in particular with regards to their use for terrorism and transnational organized crime;
  - The progress in and results of OSCE SALW and SCA projects;
  - The development of a voluntary online tool for the submission of OSCE SALW-related information exchanges;
2. Tasks the Forum for Security Co-operation, in accordance with its mandate, in 2018, to:
- Continue to strengthen efforts to fully implement the existing measures and commitments set out in the OSCE Document on SALW, the OSCE Document on SCA, and related FSC decisions;
  - Promote OSCE achievements in combating illicit trafficking, reducing and preventing the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW at the Third UN Conference to Review Progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects and its International Tracing Instrument to be held from 18 to 29 June 2018 in New York;
  - Consider commencing biennial meetings to assess the implementation of the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA;
  - Continue discussing the outcomes of the Review Conferences and Biennial Meetings of States on the Programme of Action to improve coherence and complementarity with the relevant United Nations framework;
  - Continue further steps to improve the efficiency and outcome of SALW and SCA projects to ensure the maximum possible value in dealing with the challenges associated with SALW and SCA in line with the OSCE assistance mechanisms as outlined in the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA and relevant FSC decisions;
  - Continue holding periodic meetings to review practical assistance projects on SALW and SCA;
  - Further intensify efforts to continue implementing the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW in all its aspects;
  - Continue to support the timely and full submission of OSCE SALW-related information exchanges, making use of the reporting template introduced by the CPC

- for one-off information exchanges related to the OSCE Document on SALW, 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;
- Explore the possibility of a voluntary use of the United Nations International Ammunition Technical Guidelines in OSCE assistance projects on SCA;
  - Continue to explore ways to review and, where appropriate, supplement the OSCE Document on SALW, the OSCE Document on SCA and the OSCE Handbooks of Best Practices on SALW and on Conventional Ammunition, as well as the CSCE Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers;
  - Consider adopting a best practice guide regarding the deactivation of SALW and having further discussions on this topic;
  - Continue to exchange views and information and share best practices, on a voluntary basis and if relevant to the mandate of the FSC, on:
    - Addressing the impact of excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW and SCA on women and children;
    - Creating equal opportunities for women’s participation in policymaking, planning and implementation processes to combat illicit SALW as well as with regard to the OSCE Assistance Projects in the field of SALW and SCA;
  - Explore ways to prevent the diversion of SALW and SCA to illicit markets;
  - Explore ways to complement the existing OSCE measures aimed at addressing the illicit trafficking of SALW;
  - Explore ways to enhance outreach to the OSCE Partners for Co-operation on issues related to SALW and SCA in line with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and OSCE commitments and further develop co-operation with Mediterranean partners;
  - Submit progress reports, through its Chairperson, to the Twenty-Fifth Meeting of the Ministerial Council in 2018 on work in relevant areas, in accordance with its mandate;
3. Invites the participating States to:
- Continue providing extrabudgetary contributions on a voluntary basis to support FSC assistance projects on SALW and SCA;
  - Explore possibilities to provide, where appropriate, voluntary expert advice in OSCE assistance projects on SALW and SCA by participating States having specific knowledge;
  - Continue, within the Security Dialogue, discussions on topical security issues related to SALW and SCA;

- Continue, within the Security Dialogue, as appropriate, general discussions related to the Arms Trade Treaty;
  - Organize capacity-building events at the national, regional and OSCE-wide level in support of the implementation of OSCE commitments on SALW and SCA;
  - Make use of the voluntary online tool for the submission of OSCE SALW-related information exchanges and provide extrabudgetary contributions for its further development;
4. Encourages the OSCE Partners for Co-operation to voluntarily implement the provisions of this decision.