



OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on Conventional Ammunition



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe

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FSC Support Section, Conflict Prevention Centre, OSCE Secretariat
Wallnerstrasse 6, A-1010, Vienna, Austria

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The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition (SCA) (FSC.DOC/1/03, 19 November 2003)

Recalling Section VII of the OSCE Document on SCA, in which participating States agreed to consider developing a “best practice” guide of techniques and procedures for the destruction of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices, and the management and control of stockpiles, and noting that such a document would cover, inter alia, indicators of surplus and risk, standards and procedures for the proper management of stockpiles, norms to be used in determining which stockpiles should be destroyed, as well as standards and technical procedures of destruction,

Noting that a handbook gathering these best practice guides could serve as a guide for national policy making by participating States and encourage higher common standards of practice among all participating States,

Acknowledging that such a handbook of best practices could also be useful to OSCE Partners for Co-operation and other United Nations Member States in their efforts to tackle the risks and challenges caused by the presence of stockpiles of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices in surplus and/or awaiting destruction,

Recognizing the work done by participating States to complete this task,

Decides to:

- Welcome the development of the best practice guides on conventional ammunition and endorse the compilation of those that are currently available and under preparation into a handbook of best practices in all six OSCE languages;
- Ensure that the remaining guides are included in the handbook when finalized and reviewed;
- Encourage participating States to make this handbook available to all relevant national authorities for its implementation as appropriate;
- Task the Conflict Prevention Centre to ensure the widest possible distribution, including the OSCE Partners for Co operation and the United Nations, of this handbook after its completion;
- Take account of this handbook, including the possibility of its further development during the regular review of the OSCE Document on SCA, in accordance with Section VII, paragraph 37 of the Document;
- Append this decision to the handbook in order to be distributed with it.