



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretariat

**Director of the
Conflict Prevention Centre**

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First Dimension Activities of OSCE Missions and Field Operations

In line with the OSCE's comprehensive concept of security, all activities of the OSCE missions and field operations, across the three dimensions, contribute to the enhancement of security in our region. Yesterday, the Chair of the Conference, Ambassador Everts, noted that politico-military activities have not been a central feature of the work of the missions. On the other hand, he mentioned how, in the light of recent calls from participating States to rebalance our work throughout the dimensions, the PC and FSC are working together ever more constructively to involve missions in first dimension activities, including the implementation of commitments under the Code of Conduct and the Small Arms Document.

The report circulated by the CPC as part of the CiO's compilation of contributions (CIO.GAL/53/03) provides an overview of security-related activities of missions and field operations, Institutions and relevant sections of the Secretariat. Leaving aside the activities of the Institutions, which have been covered by my colleagues already, this report shows how missions are increasingly active on first dimension issues. Policing, anti-trafficking and border management have all emerged as central issues. While these may be cross-dimensional in nature, they nevertheless retain a strong first dimension focus.

Allow me to highlight a few activities of our missions from this report which might be of interest to delegations:

- In the light of the Ohrid Conference on Border Management, OSCE missions in South Eastern Europe are working with host authorities to facilitate cross-border contacts among States of the region.
- The Centre in Almaty is about to co-sponsor a conference on "New Parameters of Security in Central Asia: Eurasian, European and Atlantic Aspects" next week.

- In Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Mission has provided expert assistance and advice on a draft law that will put arms and weapons production under civilian control.
- The Centre in Dushanbe has taken on a co-ordinating role for foreign assistance for mine action initiatives, and is developing a pilot project to equip and fund two survey teams.
- The OSCE Mission in Georgia facilitates the destruction of ammunition stockpiles, and monitors and supports the collection of small arms by the Joint Peacekeeping Forces in South Ossetia.
- OMiK's Kosovo Police Service School has an impressive and well-known track record. It has trained over 5,500 basic recruits and provided specialist training to thousands more.
- The Mission to Moldova co-ordinates a major programme to facilitate and ensure transparency of the withdrawal of arms, ammunition, military equipment, and troops of the Operative Group of Russian Forces (OGRF) from the Transdnestrian region.
- The Mission to Serbia and Montenegro provides comprehensive support and advice for the implementation of all politico-military agreements of the OSCE.
- The Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje deploys confidence building monitors and has facilitated the resumption of 24-hour policing in the former crisis areas.
- The Centre in Tashkent runs, in conjunction with the CPC, a training programme to combat cross-border arms trafficking at the Afghan border.

The list is long, but in fact it represents only some of the activities of field missions in this area. Furthermore, with the agreement of additional funding for field operations in Central Asia and the Caucasus under Annex 11 of the 2003 Unified Budget, many additional project related activities in the first dimension are in process. In addition, the new mechanisms for assistance under the SALW Document, as well as potential similar arrangements for ammunition stockpiles, may well entail further work for missions.

Most missions have accomplished this without significant increases in resources. The majority do not have dedicated staff for politico-military activities, and are increasingly stretched in terms of workload and expertise. As a result, FSC Support Unit is often called upon to provide advice and support for these activities, particularly those funded through Annex 11 – a major new undertaking for a small unit, as I pointed out yesterday in Working Group B. On the other hand, it is a clear priority focus for future CPC work.