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## UK Delegation to the OSCE

ENGLISH only

FSC Chairmanship's Co-ordinator for Projects on SALW  
Colonel Steve Hartnell

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### **SALW Project Update to the 576th Plenary Meeting of the Forum for Security Co-operation on 29<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

Mr Chairman,

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for asking me to continue to be your Co-ordinator for SALW Projects, to join with others in wishing you well for your Chairmanship, and to give a brief update to pS on changes to the current status of the OSCE's SALW Projects.

#### Republic of Tajikistan.

Phase II of a SALW and CA programme providing SALW and CA stockpile physical security, and SALW and CA physical security training is in its final stage. Three of five tasks have been fully completed and two others are near completion. The OSCE Office in Tajikistan and its Tajik counterparts are finalising activities, and they should be completed by May-June 2009. A Donors' visit will be planned by the CPC later this year, and the Final Report will be presented by the OSCE Office in Tajikistan to all pS on closure of Phase II.

#### Republic of Belarus.

Phase I of this Project has successfully improved SALW stockpile management and security in the Republic of Belarus. In order to allow a smooth and cost-effective transition to the implementation of Phase II in 2009, we most urgently need pS to give an indication of their intention to contribute as Donors to this project. Contributions can be made directly to either the OSCE or the UNDP, or via the OSCE Comprehensive SALW and SCA Programme (FSC.GAL/104/08). Unless the OSCE is able to give the UNDP Office in Minsk a positive response on funding pledges by the end of April 2009, then it will unfortunately be necessary to commence preparation for the closure of the OSCE contribution to this project.

#### Republic of Cyprus.

Finally, I can report that in response to the Republic of Cyprus' request for assistance with the destruction of surplus MANPADS, a successful assessment and project development visit was conducted from 10-12 March 2009. The aim of the visit was to evaluate the situation on the ground, assess existing national capacities and to define a destruction programme. The Assessment Team consisting of the representatives of the FSC Support Section, the UK and the USA, submitted an Assessment Report which was distributed on 20 April 2009 under reference FSC.GAL/41/09.

Subject to the appropriate administrative arrangements, it is anticipated that the destruction phase of the programme will be implemented during the period 9-12 June 2009.

Thank you Mr Chairman.

I stand ready to assist any pS who wishes to become engaged actively in helping the OSCE deliver practical assistance to SALW projects in our Region.