

657th Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 663, Agenda item 4

**DECISION No. 9/11
OSCE MEETING TO REVIEW THE OSCE PLAN OF ACTION ON
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Recalling the commitment by the OSCE participating States to combat illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) in all its aspects, as laid down and detailed in the OSCE Document on SALW (FSC.DOC/1/00, 24 November 2000),

Reaffirming the commitment by the OSCE participating States to the full implementation of the OSCE Document on SALW and the supplementary decisions taken by the FSC,

Recalling the OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC.DEC/2/10, 26 May 2010), in which participating States agreed conduct an experts' meeting to review the implementation of the Plan no later than in May 2012,

Determined to continue playing an active role in international efforts based on the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects (2001),

Decides:

1. To organize an OSCE meeting to review the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW on 22 and 23 May 2012, in Vienna, with the participation of relevant international governmental and non-governmental organizations and in accordance with the programme, indicative timetable and organizational modalities annexed to this decision;
2. To task the OSCE Secretariat to support the organization of this meeting;
3. To invite the OSCE participating States to consider providing extrabudgetary contributions for the above-mentioned event.

OSCE MEETING TO REVIEW THE OSCE PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Vienna, 22 and 23 May 2012

I. Programme and indicative timetable

Monday, 21 May 2012

Arrival of external participants
(Possibilities for informal discussions amongst participating States)

Tuesday, 22 May 2012

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| 10–10.30 a.m. | Opening session |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Opening statement by the FSC Chairperson– Opening address by the OSCE Secretary General |
| 10.30 a.m.–1 p.m. | Working session I: Conformity, transparency and practical assistance
(with a coffee break) |
| | (Ref. Plan of Action on SALW, Section I, paragraphs 1 and 2) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Introductory address by the working session moderator;– Presentations on aspects of conformity, transparency and practical assistance;– Discussion on the OSCE Plan of Action with reference to conformity, transparency and practical assistance. |
| 1–3 p.m. | Buffet lunch |
| 3–6 p.m. | Working session II: Export and brokering controls (with a coffee break) |
| | (Ref. Plan of Action on SALW, Section II, paragraphs 1 and 2) |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">– Introductory address by the working session moderator;– Presentations on aspects of SALW export and brokering controls;– Discussion on the OSCE Plan of Action with reference to export and brokering controls. |

Wednesday, 23 May 2012

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session III: Stockpile management and security, destruction, marking and tracing (with a coffee break)
- (Ref. Plan of Action on SALW, Section II, paragraphs 3, 4 and 5)
- Introductory address by the working session moderator;
 - Presentations on aspects of stockpile management and security, destruction, marking and tracing of SALW;
 - Discussion on the OSCE Plan of Action with reference to stockpile management and security, destruction, marking and tracing.
- 1–3 p.m. Lunch break
- 3–4.30 p.m. Working session IV: Way forward on the Plan of Action and OSCE contribution to the UN processes
- Introductory address by the working session moderator;
 - Remarks by panellists;
 - Discussion on the way forward with regard to the Plan of Action on SALW;
 - What is the implementation rate of the Plan of Action?
 - What issues of the Plan require further implementation efforts?
 - Are there additional aspects of the Plan of Action implementation identified by participating States on which the OSCE should focus its efforts?
 - How can the OSCE SALW processes further contribute to global efforts?
 - Discussion of the OSCE contribution to the UN Review Conference on the UN Programme of Action on SALW.
- 4.30–5 p.m. Closing session
- Chairperson’s closing remarks

II. Organizational modalities

Background

The OSCE Plan of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons (FSC Decision No. 2/10) requested the FSC to conduct an expert’s meeting to review the implementation of the Plan of Action on SALW no later than May 2012. This meeting is to build upon the relevant provisions in the OSCE Document on SALW as well as on the extensive OSCE *acquis* in respect of SALW, developed since 1999. It is also to take into account the

contributions and proposals made by experts on SALW and relevant NGOs in the context of the FSC's work, in particular during its SALW review meeting in 2009.

The meeting is to take full advantage of the Final Outcome Document of the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action on SALW (BMS-4) as well as the results of the 2011 Experts Group meeting that dealt with marking, record-keeping and tracing.

The meeting, based on a thematic approach, is to discuss further OSCE action with regard to the implementation of the OSCE Plan of Action on SALW, to address specific problems in the OSCE area and is to identify gaps which would require further action by the FSC.

Organization

The FSC Chairmanship will chair the opening and closing sessions.

Each working session will have a moderator and a rapporteur. The rapporteurs will assist the moderators in the preparation of their respective working sessions. Each rapporteur will provide a written summary report, which will become a part of the Chairperson's report.

Each working session will be introduced by the moderator, after which up to four presentations will be given on specific aspects of the topic, either by the moderator or by other experts. The introduction and the presentations are to be in line with point-papers to be distributed via the moderator prior to the meeting. The introductions and the presentations at the working sessions are to be brief, so as to allow maximum time for discussion, and should therefore highlight only the most important elements of the point-papers so as to provide information and set the scene for the discussion.

The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE will be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, at the meeting. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (PC.DEC/762) will be taken into account.

Interpretation from and into all six working languages of the OSCE will be provided at the opening, working and closing sessions.

The FSC Chairperson will provide a report on the meeting not later than 22 June 2012, including a summary of suggestions and recommendations made during the meeting.

The OSCE Secretariat will assist the FSC Chairperson in all matters concerning the organizational modalities of the meeting.

Participation

The participating States are encouraged to ensure the participation of experts involved in the SALW controls, especially those involved in the licensing process, marking and tracing. The OSCE institutions will participate in the meeting. The Parliamentary Assembly and the Partners for Co-operation will also be invited to participate.

Other relevant international and regional organizations that are involved in SALW activities, such as the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the UN Development Programme, the UN Institute for Disarmament Research, the European Union and NGOs will also be invited by the FSC Chairperson.

The deadline for registrations will be 8 May 2012.

General guidelines for participants

Prior circulation of briefings, overviews or statements is encouraged. To promote interactive discussion, delegations are requested to provide formal statements in writing only. Delegations are requested to limit the length of their oral statements to five minutes.

Guidelines for keynote speakers and panellists

To facilitate discussion within the time constraints, the keynote presentation will be limited to 15–20 minutes, introductions and presentations in the working sessions to 5–10 minutes, and interventions/questions from the floor to five minutes.

In their contributions, the speakers at the opening and working sessions should set the scene for the discussion and stimulate debate among delegations by raising appropriate questions and suggesting potential recommendations, and should concentrate on the highlights of their contributions. Speakers should remain present during the entire session they are addressing and should be ready to engage in the debate following their presentation.

In order to promote interactive discussion, formal statements and interventions at the working sessions should be as concise as possible and should not exceed five minutes. The speakers should also contribute to the further substance of the meeting as it evolves and as time permits. Prior circulation of statements and interventions will enhance the possibility for engaging in discussion.

Guidelines for moderators and rapporteurs

The moderator will chair the session and should facilitate and focus dialogue among the participants. The moderator should stimulate the debate by introducing items related to the subjects of the opening and working sessions, as appropriate, in order to broaden or refine the scope of the discussion. The moderators may provide input to the Chairperson for the FSC Chairperson's report.

The rapporteurs should provide written summaries subsequent to the meeting to the FSC chair.

Personal views will not be advanced.

Guidelines for submitting and distributing written contributions

Speakers should submit their written contributions to the meeting moderators no later than 15 May 2012.

By 18 May 2012, participating States and other participants in the meeting are invited to submit any written contributions they may have.

By 18 May 2012, international and regional organizations are invited to submit in writing factual information on their organizations that would be useful for the participants. Such information should not be brought to the attention of participants during the meeting.

PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
I. IMPROVE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF EXISTING MEASURES		
1. Conformity of participating States' legislation and procedures with existing OSCE commitments on SALW		
(a) Participating States to conduct national evaluation of the implementation of the OSCE SALW commitments and bring it in conformity with agreed norms in accordance with OSCE SALW Document's Sections II (D), III (F) and IV (E).	Updates to be provided, when necessary, in one-off and/or annual information exchanges.	By June 2011
(b) FSC to consider establishing a mechanism for continuous assessment of the situation regarding the implementation of FSC-agreed commitments on SALW.	(1) Improvement of announcing and reminding mechanism with regard to SALW.	By December 2010
	(2) The CPC will be tasked to develop a matrix based on existing info exchanges and within existing resources, identifying the detailed implementation of SALW commitments. The matrix will be restricted to participating States only.	By December 2011
(c) OSCE to further conduct awareness-raising and provide training, as appropriate, to countries in need, upon request.	(1) Participating States will organize seminars and training events.	Continuous
	(2) CPC will organize seminars in relevant countries.	

**PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
 (continued)**

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
(d) Projects	<p>(1) FSC, upon request, to provide assistance on developing relevant legislation on SALW in accordance with the OSCE Document on SALW, its supplementary decisions and the OSCE Handbook of Best Practices on SALW.</p> <p>(2) FSC, through PC, to explore the creation of a special SALW and SCA Voluntary Fund with the OSCE accountability controls for projects on SALW and SCA.</p> <p>(3) FSC to give more consideration to gender aspects of SALW. Possible measures to implement:</p> <p>(a) FSC to explore the application of gender aspects in the development of post-conflict SALW programmes, such as disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration projects; and</p> <p>(b) FSC to explore a list of recommendations</p>	<p>Continuous</p> <p>By January 2011</p> <p>Continuous</p>

**PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
(continued)**

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
	<p>to ensure the identification and integration of gender aspects in post-conflict SALW programmes.</p> <p>(4) Update FSC Decision No. 15/02 on Expert Advice on Implementation of Section V of the OSCE Document on SALW.</p>	<p>Completed – FSC Decision No. 11/09</p>
<p>(e) FSC to review the implementation of Ministerial Council Decision No. 11/08 with regard to the establishment or reinforcement of a legal framework for lawful brokering activities within the national jurisdiction of participating States by the end of 2010.</p>	<p>(1) Progress report by the CPC.</p> <p>(2) FSC review</p>	<p>By September 2011</p>
<p>2. Transparency measures</p>		
<p>(a) FSC to accelerate measures to improve the submission rate of FSC-agreed info exchanges on SALW.</p>	<p>(1) Same as I.1.(b).</p> <p>(2) CPC will align, if necessary, questionnaires' formatting.</p>	<p>By December 2010</p>
<p>(b) FSC to consider making public one-off information exchanges on SALW, as appropriate.</p>	<p>The Secretariat will be tasked to create a public web page for this purpose.</p>	<p>Continuous</p>

**PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
(continued)**

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
(c) FSC to consider making public annual information exchanges on SALW, as appropriate.	The Secretariat will be tasked to create a public web page for this purpose.	By June 2011
(d) FSC to raise awareness on SALW work done by the OSCE.	The Secretariat will be tasked to create a public webpage to reflect different SALW reports, studies, assessments carried out by the CPC and continue other venues of raising public awareness (PRs, side events, etc.).	By July 2011
II. REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES, NORMS AND MEASURES IN ORDER TO IMPROVE CAPACITY AND EFFICIENCY		
1. General		
(a) FSC to review Best Practice Guides on SALW.		Continuous
2. Export and brokering controls		
(a) FSC to discuss the OSCE's regulatory framework on SALW transfer criteria.		Continuous
(b) FSC to explore the expansion of contacts with the Wassenaar Arrangements Secretariat, including export and brokering controls as topics.		Continuous
(c) FSC to explore the expansion of the scope of transfer controls to include transfer of technology.		Continuous

**PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
 (continued)**

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
(d) FSC to discuss national experiences and procedures for end-use verification, re-export, post-shipment verification, brokering controls and licensing among participating States.		Continuous
(e) FSC to review OSCE Principles on the Control of Brokering in SALW and update them, as appropriate, in light of GGE recommendations, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Description of brokering activities; – Record-keeping; – Transparency measures; – Penalties; – Co-operation with other international organizations. 		Continuous
3. Stockpile management and security		
(a) FSC to consider strengthening commitments on stockpile management and security on SALW.	The CPC will be tasked to provide a statistical overview of the information provided by participating States on national procedures related to stockpile management and security of SALW.	Continuous

**PLAN OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
(continued)**

Measures	Possible measures to implement	Implementation timeline
4. Destruction		
(a) FSC to consider ways to strengthen participating States' commitment to destroy surplus and illicit SALW.		By January 2011
(b) FSC to discuss means to improve participating States' capacity for the destruction of surplus and illicit SALW.		Continuous
5. Marking and tracing		
(a) FSC to take concrete steps to further the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit SALW.	(1) FSC to identify means to further implementation. (2) FSC to consider the integration of the International Tracing Instrument's 2005 commitments concerning traceability of SALW in its regulatory framework.	Continuous
(b) FSC to discuss national experiences in tracing requests and their outcomes.		Continuous
(c) FSC to explore the needs of OSCE countries to receive assistance on marking in the framework of stockpile management and security assistance.		Continuous