

## PRESS RELEASE

### HANDOVER OF THE UPGRADED MUNITIONS STORAGE FACILITY

26 JULY 2011 at 11h  
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR, SKOPJE

**On 26 July, 2011 at 11:00h**, an official ceremony will be held in the Ministry of Interior in Skopje for the handover of a storage facility for safekeeping of ammunition cartridge cases. The upgrade of the storage facility was supported by the European Union (EU) under the EU COUNCIL DECISION 2010/179/CFSP and implemented by UNDP/SEESAC.

**Minister of Interior, Gordana Jankuloska**, will receive the donation on behalf of the authorities of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. **Dieter Thiel, Head of Operations** at the **European Union Delegation** in Skopje will present the new facility and equipment on behalf of the EU, while **Ms. Deirdre Boyd**, the **UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative** will represent the UNDP.

On 11 March 2010, the EU, under the EU COUNCIL DECISION 2010/179/CFSP, decided to support SEESAC arms control activities in the Western Balkans, as a way to implement the EU Strategy to combat the illicit accumulation and trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and their ammunition. The upgrade of the storage facility in Skopje is part of the implementation of the Council Decision. Furthermore, the upgrades help bring the country closer towards complying with EU regulations on SALW recordkeeping and storage.

**ABOUT SEESAC:** *The South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC) has a mandate from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) to further support all international and national stakeholders by strengthening national and regional capacity to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and thus contribute to enhanced stability, security and development in South Eastern and Eastern Europe. More information about SEESAC can be found at <http://www.seesac.org/>*