

**REPORT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME OF  
ACTION TO PREVENT, COMBAT AND ERADICATE TRADE IN SMALL  
ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS FOR 2006**

**A) NATIONAL LEVEL**

**1. NATIONAL COORDINATION AGENCY**

- i) Does your country have a national coordination agency or body that is responsible for policy guidance, research and monitoring of efforts to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects? (II.4)**

The Republic of Croatia established National Commission on arms and ammunition in 2005 which aims at securing more effective planning, coordination and implementation of activities related to the issue of arms and ammunition. For the purpose of achieving the mentioned goal, taking the integrated and comprehensive approach, the role of the National Commission is to plan, coordinate, direct and monitor all relevant activities implemented at the national level.

**2. NATIONAL POINT OF CONTACT**

- i) Does your country have a national point of contact to act as liaison with other States on matters relating to the implementation of the UN Programme of Action? (II.5)**

The National Point of Contact for matters relating to the implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects is the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Department for International Security, Section for Arms Control and Disarmament, phone: 00 385-1-4597-488; 00-1-4569-952; fax: 00 385-1-4597-416.

**3. LEGISLATION, REGULATIONS, ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES**

- i) What national laws, regulations and administrative procedures exist to exercise effective control over SALW in the following areas? (II.2)**

**• Production**

Production of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the Law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment (*Zakon o proizvodnji, remontu i prometu naoružanja i vojne opreme*), adopted on 25 March 2002 (Official Gazette 33/2002). The Law regulates the following: the

planning as well as the production development for arms and military equipment; criteria for the determination and use of capacities for producing and refitting arms and military equipment; trade in arms and military equipment; safety and protection of methods of producing and refitting arms and military equipment; confirming that the relevant regulations on arms and military equipment have been adhered to; and the production and refitting of arms and military equipment in time of war or in situations of clear and present danger to the independence and sovereignty of the Republic of Croatia. The Law also recognizes patents for inventions that can be of interest for defense purposes.

The producers of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia will also need to abide by the regulations contained in the Decree on Conditions and Criteria that must be fulfilled by producers of arms and military equipment (Uredba o uvjetima i kriterijima koje moraju ispunjavati proizvođači naoružanja i vojne opreme). This Decree, which is based on Article 6, paragraph 3 of the Law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, has not yet been adopted, although its final draft version has been sent to relevant Government Ministries for comments and adjustments. The Decree outlines the conditions and criteria producers of arms and military equipment must fulfill, in line with the Law on the production, Refitting and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, in the production of arms and military equipment.

Producers of arms and military equipment are required to abide by the Regulation on Special Measures for Securing and Protecting the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment, which has been in effect since January 2003 (Official Gazette 5/2003).

- **Import/Export**

Since June 2005 Croatia is a participant to the Wassenaar Arrangement and the Nuclear Suppliers Group.

The import and export of arms and military equipment in the Republic of Croatia is regulated by the Decree on Goods Subject to Import and Export Licensing (Official Gazette 67/03). The Decree specifies, along with their accompanying Customs Tariff numbers, those goods that are subject to export and import licensing, including arms and military equipment.

Article 4 (paragraphs ii, iii, iv and v) of the Decree states:

"Import licenses for armament and military equipment intended for the Croatian Army and the police shall be issued by the Ministry of Defence and Ministry of Internal Affairs respectively".

"Export and import licenses covering weaponry for commercial purposes shall be issued by the Ministry of Economy, subject to previous approval by the Commission consisting of representatives from the Ministry of Economy".

"The Authority referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be appointed by the Minister of the Economy".

"The Rules of Procedure of the Authority referred to in paragraph 3 of this Article shall be passed by the Minister of the Economy".

Amended Decree on Goods Subject to Import and Export Licensing (Official Gazette 127/06) adopted on 22 November 2006 applies The List of Military Goods harmonized with The Common Military list of the European Union, adopted by the Council on 27 February 2006.

In issuing licenses for the import or export of arms and military equipment, each member of the Licensing Authority for Import and Export Control of Weapons for Commercial Purposes is authorized to give an opinion so that:

- the representative of the Ministry of Defense is responsible for determining whether or not the goods in question are military or nature and if these goods, as such, can be used for military or civilian purposes. This can be determined using the specifications submitted by the parties involved, and from the name and type of goods.
- the representative of the Ministry of Interior Affairs is responsible for controlling the type and the purpose, as well as the amount of the goods in question and for controlling the enclosed specifications and contracts.
- the representative of Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for ensuring that the process of approving a request does not bring Croatia's security into danger, as well as ensuring that the request does not violate international legal obligation that Croatia has undertaken to uphold.
- the representative of the Ministry of the Economy gathers formal requests submitted by parties interested in importing and exporting weapons, contacts those parties and gives them instructions relating to their requests; calls the National Licensing Authority to meeting; takes Minutes of the Authority's meetings that determine when the meeting took place, how many requests have been received, how many requests have been approved, and why certain requests were not approved; and ensures that requests follow legal requirements.

The Authority does NOT consider following requests:

- if the form MG-TI/MG/TU of the Decree on Goods Subject to Import and Export Licensing is not filled out correctly;
- if all necessary specifications, formulated by the Authority, are not enclosed in the request
- if all necessary documents (the order, the contract, the proposal, the bill etc.) are not enclosed;
- if the original "end user certificate" and a copy of the import license are not enclosed;
- if the "end user certificate" and the copy of the import license, issued in a foreign language, had not been translated into Croatian by an official court interpreter;
- if a certificate confirming the payment of administrative tax is not enclosed

The Authority regularly meets twice a month (every 15 days), although if the situation requires it can meet more often. The minutes of every meeting have to be approved and signed by all members of the Authority at the next meeting, which are then archived in the Ministry of Economy. If even one member of the Authority does not give his/her consent for issuing a license, the request cannot be accepted/approved.

Request for the issuance of import/export license armament and military equipment intended for commercial use, should be submitted on the MG-TI and MG-TU forms, which belong to above mentioned Decree. In addition to the above outlined request, in accordance to Article 10 (paragraph ii), it is necessary submit an import license issued by competent authorities of the state to which the goods are exported; and the original statement given by the end user notarized by competent authorities of the state to which the goods are exported. In accordance 11 (paragraph ii) of the Decree exporter/importer of the goods is obliged to submit all remaining documentation, depending on the nature of the goods which are exported/ imported. The State Inspectorate conducts oversight of SALW commerce.

Also, for the import or export of SALW, the Customs service of Croatia requires the filling out of the form "Single Administrative Document" (Customs Declaration), which is regulated by the Rules of Procedure Concerning the Usage of the Single Administrative Document in the Customs Clearance Process (*Pravilnik o obrascima za provedbu Carinskog zakona* – Official Gazette 147/1999), as well as the Instruction for Filling out the "Single Administrative Document" (Napunak o popunjavanju Jedinstvene Carinske Deklaracije – CU br. 37/01). With regard to the import or export of SALW, the Single Administrative Document would be filled out containing data on the nomenclature of the goods regarding the Customs Tariff and the usual commercial name of the goods.

On 9 May 2002 the Government of the Republic of Croatia adopted a Decision whereby it agreed to accept the principles contained in the European Union Code of Conduct for Arms Exports, adopted on 8 June 1998. Paragraph 2 of the aforementioned Decision states "The Announcement in paragraph 1 of this Decision states: "The Republic of Croatia announces that it shares the objectives contained in the European Union Code of Conduct for Arms Exports, formally adopted by the European Union on 8 June 1998, and it shall follow the criteria and principles contained in the Code, which shall guide it in its arms control export policies".

The Republic of Croatia has adopted a Law on the Export of Dual-Use Goods (*Zakon o izvozu robe s dvojnomo namjenom* - Official Gazette 100/04) in July 2004 and it is in force since 1 January 2005. The Law on the Export of Dual-Use Goods determines the conditions for the export of dual use goods, jurisdiction of the administrative units in enforcement of export of dual use goods, as well as the rights and obligations of the exporters who are performing export of dual use goods. According to this Law dual use goods specifies goods, including computer programs and technology, which can be used in civil, as well as in military purposes, and goods which can be used in non-explosive purposes but it can help in any way in production of nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices.

The list of dual use goods, which can be exported on grounds of license issued by the Ministry of Economy, Labor and Entrepreneurship is determined by the Decree on List of Dual-Use Goods (*Uredba o popisu robe s dvojnomo namjenom* – Official Gazette 184/04), Regulation on Form of the Request for the Issuance of the Export License for Dual -Use Goods and Regulation on Form of the Request for Issuance of Import Certification for Import of Dual-Use Goods (*Pravilnik o obrascu zahtjeva za izdavanje izvozne dozvole za izvoz robe s dvojnomo namjenom*, *Pravilnik o obrascu*

zahtjeva za izdavanje uvozne potvrde za uvoz robe s dvojnomo namjenom – Official Gazette 166/04), which are based on the Law on the Export of Dual-Use Goods.

In 2006 Government of the United States of America donated to the Republic of Croatia export control system "Tracker". Networking of this system is planned during 2007. Government bodies that will be connected to the system and that are involved in the process of licensing are Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Finance-Customs Service, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Defense, Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Tourism, Transportation and Development and State Institute for Nuclear Safety.

- **Transit or Retransfer**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs is responsible for regulating the transfer of arms and military equipment that transits across the territory of Croatia. The entity in the country of destination importing the arms or military equipment is required to present the Ministry of Internal Affairs a valid copy of the import license issued by the relevant national authority of destination. The Ministry of Internal Affairs then, following consultations with the Ministry of Defense, issues a transit license for the transit of the arms and military equipment exclusively through international border crossing points. The transit of arms and military equipment across the territory of Croatia is regulated by the Law on the Production, Overhaul and Trade in Arms and Military Equipment and the Law on Arms.

Croatia does not recognize the institution of retransfer. In the event that a company wished to import and then retransfer arms and military equipment from Croatia, they are required to fulfill all the import and export requirements specified by the Licensing Authority for Import and Export Control of Weapons for commercial Purposes.

- ii) **What national measures exist to prevent the manufacture, stockpiling, transfer and possession of unmarked or inadequately marked SALW? How have these been implemented? (II.8)**

The present Law on Arms and its amendments has no clauses which define the marking of weapons by the producer (see Section A4 (i)). However, Article 29 of the Law on Arms gives the relevant police authority authorization to deny the issuance of a permit to carry arms for which the origin cannot be traced, or which have no engravings or marking.

Until such time that this issue becomes regulated through the Law on Arms, the application of the Law on Normisation (Zakon o normalizaciji-Official Gazette 55/96) can be applied. Namely, under Article 33 of the Law on Normisation it is possible to honor certificates of compliance issued abroad. Certificates issued by foreign institutions need to comply with the regulations (conclusion) of the *Commission Internationale Permanente pour l' Epreuve des Armes a Feu portatives* (Permanent International Commission for the Inspection of Hand –Gun Firing Weaponry-CIP). Foreign certificates issued in accordance with CIP conclusions are confirmed at the Croatian State Bureau for Normisation.

#### **4. LAW ENFORCEMENT/CRIMINALIZATION**

**i) What national legislation or other measures exist to make the illegal manufacture, possession, stockpiling and trade of SALW criminal offences under domestic law? How have these measures been implemented? (II.3)**

National legislation regulating the use and possession of SALW include the Law on Arms (Zakon o oružju - Official Gazette 46/97) and Law on Amendments on the Law on Arms (Zakon o izmjenama i dopunama Zakona o oružju – Official Gazette 27/99, 12/01) and 19/02). According to the Law on Arms, the following items qualify as arms: fire arms, air and gas powered weapons, fragmentations weapons, signal arms and string powered weapons.

The possession and carrying of fire arms or other weapons regulated by law requires the issuance of a license and permit, which are issued by the Police Directorate, or by Police Branches according to place of residence (Article 13, Paragraph 2 of the Law on Arms). The acquisition of arms may be granted for the purpose of possessing and carrying arms. Permission to acquire arms is issued by the relevant police authority and is valid for 6 months, from the date of issue. A license to possess arms which has not been used must be returned to the relevant police authority within 8 days from the day of issuance. Arms that have been acquired on basis of an approved license need to be registered at the relevant police authority (district) within 8 days of acquisition. An Arms Permit is then issued.

Croatian citizens and foreign citizens can carry arms across state borders only for weapons which have valid licenses and permits, according to Law, and only at international border crossing points. Arms crossing the state borders of Croatia need to be declared at the border police.

**ii) What national measures have been taken, including legal or administrative means, against activity that violates a United Nations Security Council arms embargo in accordance with the Charter if the United Nations? (II.15)**

With regard to the implementation of arms embargoes or other sanctions regimes imposed by UN Security Council resolutions, the Croatian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regularly informs all competent authorities in the Republic of Croatia of the provisions of these resolutions as well as of the requirement to fully comply with and respect those provisions. Presently, this is being done with regard to UN Security Council arms embargoes.

Also, the Government of Croatia has adopted Law on International Restrictive Measures (24 December 2004), whose aim is to place the implementation of international sanctions within domestic legislation.

#### **5. STOCKPILE MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY**

**i) What national standards and procedures exist for the management and security of SALW stocks held by armed forces, police or other authorized bodies? (II.17) How often are these stocks reviewed? (II.18)**

Croatia's Armed Forces and Ministry of Internal Affairs weapons and ammunition are stored and kept in accordance with Regulations and instructions developed by the Armed Forces General Staff and Ministry of Internal Affairs respectively. According to these regulations, inventory is controlled monthly, and one detailed inventory is undertaken every year. Technical inspection of ammunition is conducted annually on a required percentage for different types of ammunition.

Department for Material Affairs (Odjel materijalnih poslova) of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in co-operation with Department for Police Technical Issues (Odjel za policijske tehnike) determines the number of weapons and ammunition to be stockpiled. Department for Material Affairs issues weapons and ammunition to the organizational units of the Ministry of Internal Affairs based only on direct decree of the Department for Police Technical Issues. Entry and exit of weapons and ammunition in stockpiles is recorded in a registry kept by the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

The arms in the possession of the Customs Directorate are stored in an adequate storage facility of the Ministry of the Interior, fully in compliance with the arms control and safety requirements. The arms stored at the storage facility of the Ministry of the Interior are inspected and controlled as prescribed by the internal rules of the Ministry.

**6. COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL**

**i) Please give details of any national programs that have been established and implemented for the responsible disposal of surplus stocks of SALW held by armed forces, police and other authorized bodies. (II.18)**

Within the armed forces of the Republic of Croatia there is established procedure for the disposal of surplus stocks of small arms and light weapons, as well as ammunition. It is a continuous process performed every year according to the prescribed procedure. The General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces will determine, based on continuous analysis of the required types and quantities of weapons and ammunition, what surplus or obsolete stocks exist, and will propose the means of their disposal. The Minister of Defense will decide on this proposal. The Minister's decision must be based on Regulation on Sales of Obsolete Weapons and Defense Equipment (Official Gazette 95/02). If surplus stocks are not to be sold on the market, they will be destroyed according to established procedure, using Armed Forces facilities.

During the year 2006 there were not destructions of weapons for the needs of the Ministry of Defense of the Republic of Croatia.

If surplus stocks are to be destroyed, established procedures already exist, although implementing measures (procedures) must be developed for each individual case.

Weapons are destroyed in declared maintenance shops and then melted down in steel plants. Ammunition is destroyed at declared sites on military testing grounds.

As long as surplus stocks are stored in Armed Forces warehouses, the same Regulation applies as does to all stocks of arms and military equipment. This includes regulations on the maintenance of safety, fire prevention and environmental standards. There are no exceptions, regardless of possible changes in status or ownership.

During the Homeland War in Croatia the Croatian Armed Forces had seized a substantial amount of weapons, ammunition and military equipment. Serviceable items were recorded and incorporated into the Croatian Armed Forces inventory. Obsolete and damaged items went through the regular procedures for disposal.

**ii) What methods/means are used to dispose of such stocks? (II.18, 19)**

If surplus stocks are to be destroyed, established procedures already exist, although implementing measures (procedures) must be developed for each individual case. Weapons are destroyed in declared maintenance shops and then melted down in steel plants. Ammunition is destroyed at declared sites on military testing grounds.

**iii) What national measures exist to safeguard such stocks prior to their disposal? (II.18)**

As long as surplus stocks are stored in Armed Forces warehouses, the same Regulation applies as does to all stocks of arms and military equipment. This includes regulations on the maintenance of safety, fire prevention and environmental standards. There are no exceptions, regardless of possible changes in status or ownership.

**iv) Subject to the exceptions set out in paragraph II.16 of the UN PoA (legal restraints associated with the preparation of criminal prosecutions), are all confiscated, seized or collected SALW destroyed? (II.16)**

SALW retrieved from civilians is under the authority of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, who apply the same regulations.

During the Homeland War in Croatia the Croatian Armed Forces had seized a substantial amount of weapons, ammunition and military equipment. Serviceable items were recorded and incorporated into the Croatian Armed Forces inventory. Obsolete and damaged items went through the regular procedures for disposal.

## **7. EXPORT CONTROLS**

See Section A3 on legislation, regulations and administrative procedures.

## **8. BROKERING**

**i) What national legislation or administrative procedures exist to regulate the activities of those who engage in SALW brokering within national**

**jurisdiction and control? (e.g. registration of brokers, licensing or authorization of brokering transactions and appropriate penalties) (II.14)**

Even though there is presently no law in Croatia regulating the question of brokering, new legislation on this issue is being drafted and will enter intergovernmental procedure during 2007.

**9. MARKING, RECORD KEEPING AND TRACING**

- i) Does your country require licensed manufactures of SALW to apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each weapon as an integral part of the production process and does this marking identify the country of manufacture? (II.7)**

A draft of the new Arms Act is being prepared which will be harmonized with the Directive on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons of 18 June 1991 (91/477/EEC) and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, ratified on 7 November 2002, and which will regulate the examination and marking of firearms.

Also see Section A3 (ii).

**10. AWARENESS-RAISING**

- i) Please describe any public awareness and confidence-building programmes on the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed and implemented (including the public destruction of surplus weapons and voluntary surrender of SALW). (ii.20)**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Police Directorate are in the process of implementing the new strategy of "Community Policing" whose primary goal is reinstate partnership between the police and the wider community in order to better problem solving that effect security and quality of life in communities. In this sense the illegal possession of arms is one of the biggest problems facing "Community Policing". Creating close relationships between citizens and contact-police officers will have a positive effect on the quantity and quality of information received from citizens, which will hopefully be used to better results in uncovering criminal acts.

**B) REGIONAL LEVEL**

**1. MORATORIA AND ACTION PROGRAMMES**

- i) Please give details of any support your country has given moratoria or similar initiatives on the transfer and manufacture of SALW, and/or regional action programmes to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit**

**trade in SALW in all its aspects (including cooperation with States concerned in the implementation of these initiatives). (II.26)**

Croatia regularly reports to the OSCE Document on SALW, including information on the import and export of small arms and light weapons, as well as the exchange of information on national procedures for the control of the manufacture of SALW, national legislation on SALW and stockpile management and destruction procedures. Croatia submitted its latest report to the OSCE Document on SALW in June 2006.

Croatia also supports and regularly attends meetings of the Regional Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons in Southeast Europe (SEESAC) located in Belgrade, Serbia. The establishment of the Clearinghouse is the realization of the Stability Pact Implementation Plan on Combating the Proliferation of SALW, formulated and adopted by the Stability Pact countries in November 2001 in Budapest.

Moreover, Croatia supports efforts aimed at having operational co-operation between the Clearinghouse and another successful Stability Pact project the Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre (RACVIAC), established in 2000 in Zagreb, also under the Working Table III of the SP. Both will help to fulfill the objective of building confidence and security, as well as promoting co-operation and good neighborly relations in the SEE region.

- ii) **Please describe any involvement your country has had in the establishment of sub-regional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders (in particular trans-border customs cooperation and networks of information sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies). (ii.27)**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Croatia has its representative at the SECI Regional Center for Combating Trans -border Crime in Bucharest, which functions as a regional focal point for the communication and transmission of information in "real time" on cross border crime, including on illicit trade in SALW.

In this regard, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Croatia reports that, although it does not have a specific department dealing with weaponry, efforts have been made to develop new methodologies on the handling of weapons, the establishment of data bases, methods of work, and so on. This initiative will be presented to the SECI Center in Bucharest, which will be requested to participate in the initiative by providing information on the working methods of other Ministries of Internal Affairs throughout Europe, and through financial assistance.

## **C) GLOBAL LEVEL**

### **1. INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENTS AGAINST TERRORISM AND CRIME**

**i) What existing international legal instruments against terrorism and transnational organized crime has your country ratified or acceded to? (II.38)**

Croatia is a State Party to 13 key United Nations anti-terrorist conventions:

- 1) Convention on Offences and Certain Other Acts Committed on Board Aircraft – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 2) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 3) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 4) Protocol on the Suppression of Unlawful Acts of Violence at Airports Serving International Civil Aviation, Supplementary to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Civil Aviation – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 5) Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes Against Internationally Protected Persons, Including Diplomatic Agents – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 6) Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Materials – Croatia became a State Party on 8 October 1991 following notification of succession;
- 7) International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism – Croatia signed this Convention on 11 November 2001 and became a State Party on 1 October 2003;
- 8) International Convention Against Taking of Hostages – Croatia became a State Party on 17 July 2003 following notification of succession.
- 9) International Convention for the Suppression of Terrorist Bombings – Croatian Parliament ratified it in March 2005;
- 10) Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation – Croatian Parliament ratified it in April 2005;
- 11) Protocol for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Fixed Platforms Located on the Continental Shelf – Croatian Parliament ratified it in April 2005;
- 12) Convention on the Marking of Plastic Explosives for the Purpose of Detection – accession by Croatia on 24 February 2005.

- 13) International Convention for the Suppression of Acts of Nuclear Terrorism (currently in the ratification procedure).

## 2. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

- i) **Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance mutual legal assistance and other forms of cooperation in order to assist investigations and prosecutions in relation to the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (III.13)**

Cooperation, exchange of information and education of customs officers with Customs Directorates of some neighboring countries are taking place on the basis of concluded bilateral cooperation agreements. The following Cooperation Agreements have been concluded to date:

- Republic of Hungary (signed on 09.09.1999, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 15/99, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 5/00 );
- Czech Republic (signed on 03.11.1999, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 3/00, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 5/00);
- Italian Republic (signed on 21.05.2002, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 11/02, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 8/05);
- Republic of Slovakia (signed on 04.03.2003, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 11/02, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 1/04);
- Republic of Slovenia (signed on 10.6.2005, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 8/05, no publication yet of entry into force);
- Bosnia and Herzegovina (signed on 27.07.2000, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 4/01, no publication yet of entry into force);
- Republic of Turkey (signed on 10.02.1999, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 1/00, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 10/03);
- Republic of Albania (signed on 27.10.2003, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 3/04, publication of entry into force in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 6/04);
- Republic of Moldavia (signed on 30.05.2005, not yet published);
- Government of the Republic of Montenegro (signed on 09.12.2005, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 2/06)
- Government of the Republic of Serbia (signed on 15.12.2005, published in Official Gazette-International Agreements No. 2/06)
- Republic of Bulgaria (signed on 27.04.2006, not yet published).

- ii) **Please give details of your country's cooperation with Interpol for the purpose of identifying those groups and individuals engaged in the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (II.37)**

The Ministry of Internal Affairs Department for International Police Cooperation has a section that deals exclusively with cooperation with INTERPOL. The officer in

change of this section is responsible for acting on and implementing INTERPOL warrants and requests, and for communicating with other government and non-government bodies and institutions in Croatia as well as abroad on INTERPOL issues. Also, for information on further initiatives on regional police cooperation see Section B1(ii).

- iii) **Please describe any steps your country has taken in cooperation with other States, or regional or international organizations, to develop common understandings of the basic issues and the scope of problems related to illicit brokering in SALW. (II.39)**

See Section B2 (i)(ii).

### **3. TRAINING, CAPACITY-BUILDING AND RESEARCH**

- i) **Please describe any initiatives your country has undertaken to enhance cooperation and exchange of experience and training among competent officials, including customs, police, intelligence and arms control officials, at the national, regional and global levels in order to combat the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects. (III.7)**

The Customs Directorate of the Republic of Croatia as a member of the World Customs Organization (WCO) and a member of many international institutions engaged in preventing trafficking in arms and drugs and in fighting organized crime and terrorism, has extensive cooperation in the education and training of customs officers and the exchange of data among the Customs Directorates who are members of the WCO, through support programs and international organizations (CARDS 2001, 2003, 2005, IMB, SECI, OLAF, OSCE, CAFAO, INTERPOL, EUROPOL, RACVIAC, SIPRI, IAEA).

In 2005, the Customs Academy began to work, and it will quite certainly contribute to a better training of customs officers in all respects, including the issue of SALW.

- ii) **Please give details of any action-oriented research aimed at facilitating greater awareness and better understanding of the nature and scope of problems associated with the illicit trade in SALW in all its aspects that your country has developed or supported. (III.18)**

In 2006 SALW survey was conducted The goal was to identify spreading and accessibility of weapons and influence on the community and region. The results of the survey will help in developing National Strategy and Action plan for the control of SALW which will be focused on: suppression of illegal production, trade and possession; control of acquisition and border control; and development of measures on collecting, stockpiling and destroying arms and ammunitions.

Zagreb, April 2007