

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

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 has a National Commission for Arms and Ammunition within which the coordination of activities on the national level and with international factors takes place. The Commission, as a national-level body, is responsible for the coordination and guidance of activities related to SALW and for the consultancy concerning the policy and monitoring of the implementation of policies and strategies.

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 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 Organizations, Section for Co-operative Security and Disarmament, phone: +385-1-4597-488; +385-1-4569-952; fax: +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:

- i) planning as well as the production development for arms and military equipment;
- ii) criteria for the determination and use of capacities for producing and refitting arms and military equipment;

- iii) trade in arms and military equipment;
- iv) 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;
- v) 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 amendments. 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).

Moreover, The Regulation on Special Conditions for Defense Equipment Development (Official Gazette 67/2003) is also in effect. Article 17 of the Regulation states that one of the primary conditions for development of defense equipment is the application of safety and protective measures. In the event that a private contractor or an organization fails to meet the criteria outlined in this Regulation, further work can be halted (Article 12).

- **Import/Export**

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 the 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 Defense and the Ministry of the Interior 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".

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, whereby:

- i) 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.
- ii) 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.
- iii) 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.
- iv) 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 a 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:

- i) the form MG-TI/MG/TU of the Decree on Goods Subject to Import and Export Licensing is not filled out correctly;
- ii) all necessary specifications, formulated by the Authority, are not enclosed in the request;
- iii) all necessary documents (the order, the contract, the proposal, the bill etc.) are not enclosed;
- iv) the original "end user certificate" and a copy of the import license are not enclosed;
- v) 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;
- vi) 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 the above mentioned Decree. In addition to the above outlined

request, in accordance to Article 10 (paragraph ii), it is necessary to 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" (Naputak 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.

- **Transit or Retransfer**

The Ministry of the Interior 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 the Interior a valid copy of the import license issued by the relevant national authority of destination. The Ministry of the Interior then, following consultations with the Ministry of Defense, Issues a transit license for the transit of 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 of 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, on 24 December 2004 the Government of Croatia has adopted Law on International Restrictive Measures, 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)

Weapons and ammunition of the Croatian Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior are stored and kept in accordance with Regulations and instructions developed by the General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces and the Ministry of the Interior 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 za materijalne poslove) of the Ministry of the Interior 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 the Interior 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 the Interior.

Weapons in possession of the Customs Service has so far been stockpiled by the producers from which it was bought, due to the shortage of an adequate warehouse space within the Customs Service. During year 2005 these weapons will be adequately stockpiled by the Ministry of the Interior, thereby completely fulfilling the conditions of security and control over the stockpiled weapons.

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 Croatian Armed Forces there is an 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 year 2004 there has been in total 2741 pieces of weapons destroyed (28 guns, 1967 rifles, 404 short machine guns, 205 machine guns, 7 mortars of 60 and 82 mm and 30 hand-held launchers).

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 the Interior, which applies the same regulations.

During the Homeland War in Croatia, the Croatian Armed Forces 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 into the Government procedure in 2005.

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)**

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 the Interior and the Police Directorate are in the process of implementing the new strategy of "Community Policing" (Policija u zajednici). The primary goal of this new concept of policing is to create partnerships between the police and the wider community in order to develop better procedures for solving problems that effect security and quality of life in the local communities. In this regard, 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 be used to achieve 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 on 22 June 2004.

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 and Montenegro. The establishment of the Clearinghouse is the realisation 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 the Interior 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 the Interior 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, etc. 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 the Interior throughout Europe, and through financial assistance.

Regarding possible cross border or regional mechanisms to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in SALW between customs services, Croatia does not have any specific bilateral agreements with other states regulating this issue. This specific issue is regulated by international treaties on mutual customs assistance concerning goods in general

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 12 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.

To date the Republic of Croatia has submitted four reports to the Counter-terrorism Committee on the national implementation of the SC resolution 1373 (2001). In its last report submitted on 30 January 2004, Croatia informed the Committee about the legislative changes it has proposed in order to fully implement Security Council resolution 1373 (2001).

In order to fully implement Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) and resolution 1456 (2003), and in conformity with the *acquis communautaire*, the Croatian Parliament adopted a new Law on Asylum (Official Gazette 103/03) and a new Law on the Control of the State Border (Official Gazette 173/03), while a new Anti-Money Laundering Act is now in parliamentary 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)**

In Zagreb in October 2002 Croatia hosted an EACP/PfP workshop "The practical challenges arising from the implementation of the OSCE Document on SALW". It was characterized by competent, constructive and intensive work of a high number of participants (about 100 persons from 37 participating States). The main objective of the workshop was to look at what practical actions should further be taken on the national and international levels and how this could be best done by taking into account the comparative advantages and expertise of multilateral actors.

- 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 the Interior, Department for International Police Cooperation has a section that deals exclusively with cooperation with INTERPOL. The officer in charge 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)**

See section B1(i)(ii). Also, issues relating to SALW are added to the curricula of Regional Arms Control Verification and Implementation Assistance Centre (RACVIAC), established in 2000 in Zagreb. For more on RACVIAC, see Section B1(i).

During Year 2004 several seminars and workshops for the civil servants were held on topic of the control of export of military arms and dual use goods on a global level:

1. Workshop on legal framework of the control of SALW, organized by the United States Government in Zagreb in February 2004;
2. Workshop on legal framework on export controls, held in March 2004 in Zagreb;
3. Workshop on strategic export control regimes, organized by Croatia and Sweden in April 2004 in Zagreb;
4. Seminar on Classification of Articles for Military and Dual Use, in November 2004 in Zagreb;
5. Seminar of Experts on the Code of Conduct of EU when Exporting Weapons, in December 2004 in Prague.

Moreover, Customs Service of Republic of Croatia, as a member of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and of numerous international institutions pursuing the combat the illicit trade of weapons, drugs and struggle against the organized crime and terrorism, accomplishes significant cooperation regarding the education and training of the Customs Officers and exchange of information among the Customs Services (CARDS 2001, SECI, OSCE, CAFAO, INTERPOL, IAEA).

In addition, cooperation, exchange of information and education of Customs Officers among neighbouring states is carried out pursuant to international agreements for mutual cooperation (e.g. with Albania (NN-MU 3/04), Bosnia and Herzegovina (NN-MU 4/01, Macedonia (NN-MU 16/97), and actions have been made for making an agreement with Bulgaria and Serbia and Montenegro). On the national level,

preparations have been made for the opening of the Customs Academy, which will organize education of Customs Officers on all relevant issues, as well as on 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)**

On the technical level representatives from the Croatian Verification Center of the Ministry of Defense took part in an international workshop entitled "Industrial Aspect of Limitations on Small Arms and Light Weapons" in Baden, Switzerland, from 28-30 June 1999.

Zagreb, 29 April 2005