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## SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT - AR/075

## **SUB-REGIONAL SALW COLLECTION SEMINAR 2006**

SEESAC FUNCTIONAL AREA	FA 3 - Management Information FA 6 - SALW Collection Programmes
SEESAC OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY	SG 2 - Co-ordination Measures SG 3 - Information Management and Exchange Activities SG 4 - Project Support

Government, NGO and International Organisation representatives from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the UN Administered Territory of Kosovo, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Montenegro participated in a sub-regional SALW (Weapons) Collection Seminar in Budva, Montenegro from 12 - 13 July 2006. The objective of the seminar was to discuss 'best practices' and share operational experience of SALW Collection activities within South Eastern Europe, in order to assist the Government of Montenegro in planning a possible SALW Collection process later this year.

The participants presented their practical experience of SALW Collection programmes (between 1999 and 2006), with emphasis on the planning, logistic, security and political components encountered prior to and during the collection process. Solutions and options to resolve these issues were discussed. The representatives of Montenegro provided a discussion brief on their options for a possible national SALW Collection operation later in 2006.

It was concluded that SALW Collection Activities alone do not provide a solution to the overall problem of illegal SALW possession and proliferation. SALW Collection activities should support a wider holistic and integrated National SALW Control or National Security Strategy. The representatives further agreed that SALW Collection activities could have greater impact when the neighbouring countries co-ordinate their efforts and co-operate in the implementation of parallel cross-border SALW Collection projects.

In conclusion, the representatives invited the international donor community to provide stronger support to SALW Control programmes (and in particular SALW Collection) as a priority issue to enhance counter-proliferation activities within South Eastern Europe.

For more information about the seminar please contact Diman Dimov, Deputy Head SEESAC (<a href="mailto:diman.dimov@undp.org">diman.dimov@undp.org</a>).



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