

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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The Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Department for Disarmament Affairs and referring to its note *DDA/8-2007/ICBM* concerning the resolution "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms" (A/Res/61/79) has the honour to transmit herewith the report on the implementation of the above resolution in the Czech Republic.

The Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to Department for Disarmament Affairs the assurances of its highest consideration.

Enclosure:

New York, 27 March 2007

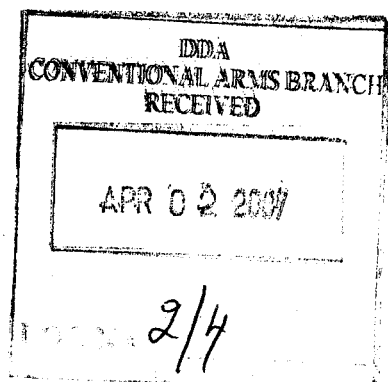


Department for Disarmament Affairs
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New York

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Report of the Czech Republic on resolution

“Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms“ (A/RES/61/79)

The policy of the Czech Republic on conventional arms control plays an important role in the security policy on the European level. The Czech Republic is a Contracting Party to the *Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty)*. This Treaty has established a stable and secure balance of conventional armed forces based on peaceful co-operation. It has become and still remains the cornerstone of stability and security in Europe in terms of reduction of tensions related to accumulated weapons through arms control at the European level as well as of greater stability through confidence building, predictability, transparency and information exchange among States Parties to this Treaty.

The Czech Republic is a Contracting Party to the *Treaty on Open Skies*, too. This Treaty establishes a programme of aerial surveillance flights over the entire territories of its participants. Its aim is to enhance the mutual confidence and understanding by giving all its participants a direct role in disseminating information about military forces and activities that may be of some concern to them and belongs to one of the most far-reaching international efforts to promote transparency and openness of military forces and their activities.

The Czech Republic also participates in other conventional arms control agreements concluded within the framework of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, including the *Vienna Document 1999 on the negotiations on confidence and security building measures*. This document is designed to promote mutual trust and to dispel different concerns about military activities by encouraging transparency and openness. Its provisions concerning the exchange and verification of military information on the participating States' armed forces, their military activities and defence policies including the size of defence budgets, location, strength and size of military formations and units, exchange of annual calendars and prior notification of certain military activities as well as observation of certain military activities help to increase confidence and transparency by promoting deeper, broader and more comprehensive co-operation among the participating States.

As a member of the European Union, the Czech Republic honours its obligations in the area of the Common Foreign and Security Policy, such as those stemming from the *EU Code of Conduct on Arms Export* and the *EU Programme for Preventing and Combating Illicit Trafficking in Conventional Arms*.

All above mentioned instruments constitute an essential element of co-operative European security and stability and will continue to remain an important tool for strengthening this stability and security as long as security and military risks and concerns exist..

Although the Czech Republic has no bilateral agreement in the field of confidence and security building measures, it has drawn and is drawing very positive lessons and experience from the results of the implementation of the European conventional arms control regimes. Therefore the Czech Republic strongly encourages other Member States that have not yet done so to begin negotiations on these kinds of treaties and agreements. The Czech Republic is ready to share with interested States its experience acquired during the negotiations and the implementation of the above mentioned conventional arms control instruments.