



Permanent Mission  
of the Federal Republic of Germany  
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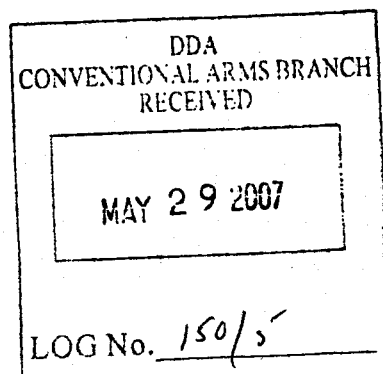
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Note

The Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office for Disarmament Affairs and has the honour to enclose the national contribution to the database on confidence-building measures as required by operative paragraph 4 of resolution 61/79 entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms".

Additionally the Federal Republic of Germany would kindly ask to put the national contribution to the database on confidence-building measures on the official webpage of the Office for Disarmament Affairs.

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



New York, 29 May 2007



To:

Mrs. Hannelore Hoppe  
Office for Disarmament Affairs  
United Nations Headquarters



Auswärtiges Amt

**Information on confidence-building measures  
in the field of conventional arms (Resolution 61/79)**

**National contribution to the database on confidence-building measures  
Federal Republic of Germany  
2006**

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## **1. Introduction**

Germany is convinced that confidence-building measures (CBMs) play a key role for disarmament and arms control. Cooperative arms control approaches often start with confidence-building measures (CBMs), which contribute to post-conflict stabilization and rehabilitation. They create the climate of transparency, dialogue and cooperation which is the foundation of arms control or disarmament agreements between the parties to a conflict and often a precondition for conflict prevention. CBMs have to be developed and agreed on a voluntary basis, their understanding is based on the principle of cooperative security. The confidence-building process is facilitated by good governance and the rule of law. CBMs should be in full compliance with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter and international humanitarian law. It is important that all states in all regions feel that their participation in transparency- and confidence-building measures serves their security interests. Conflicts in various regions where CBMs were not initiated at an early stage have shown the need for a worldwide awareness of the potential of CBMs to contribute to peace and stability. This implies, inter alia, verification regimes that ensure the reliability of the provided information. Not only bilateral but also sub-regional and regional CBMs have produced encouraging results throughout the world in supporting peace and stability. With regard to Europe, the OSCE area is an encouraging example of what CBMs can contribute to the building of peace and stability on the bilateral and regional level. Since the first CBMs were agreed at the Stockholm Conference in the mid-1980s, the CFE Treaty and the successive Vienna Documents have been instrumental in the creation of a new military culture of openness and transparency. These documents, along with additional documents of the OSCE acquis, constitute a mutually reinforcing network of security in Europe.

For the Federal Republic of Germany, the Bundeswehr Verification Center (BwVC) ensures the implementation of those arms control treaties and agreements which are binding under international law. It acts according to the directives of Germany's Foreign Office and under the direction of the German Ministry of Defense.

## **2. German participation in treaties and agreements with regard to CBMs and related activities**

### **a) Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces**

Germany is a party to the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE Treaty). The CFE Treaty aims at eliminating the capability for launching surprise attacks and for initiating large-scale offensive action in Europe by placing limits on conventional weapon systems. In order to attain the specified ceilings, more than 60,000 weapon systems were destroyed in the 1990s. The inspection regime which is laid down in the CFE Treaty provides the States Parties with the opportunity to verify compliance with the Treaty's provisions by conducting on-site inspections.

In 2006, Germany conducted five active inspections pursuant to Section VII of the Protocol on Inspection to the CFE Treaty, one inspection pursuant to Section VIII of the Protocol on Inspection and three supplementary inspections at the cost of the inspecting State Party. Furthermore, the Bundeswehr Verification Center (BwVC) escorted 19 inspections on the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany and eight transits of foreign inspection teams through Germany pursuant to the CFE Treaty.

German guest inspectors took part in 15 inspections of other States Parties. 26 inspectors from allied states or cooperation partners participated in German inspections.

In 2006, continued changes to the armed forces' structures and the Treaty-limited equipment (TLE) holdings of the units resulted again in a high number of event-triggered notifications to update the data provided in the annual exchange of information.

*In toto*, Germany submitted the following numbers of notifications within the reporting period:

- 18 notifications on changes to the organization of the armed forces, and
- 95 notifications on changes to holdings.

As a rule, several changes to the organizational structure or TLE holdings are summarized in one notification.

Moreover, personnel and material support was provided to other States Parties to aid in the implementation of the Treaty, training inspections were conducted to support other States Parties, and personnel and material support was also provided to NATO School Oberammergau for the conduct of arms control training courses.

For further information please see <http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de>

#### **b) Treaty on Open Skies**

Germany is a party to the Treaty on Open Skies and in 2006 made the following contributions to its implementation:

Within the scope of the Treaty on Open Skies, which authorizes observation flights over the territory of all States Parties from Vancouver to Vladivostok, BwVC conducted eight active observation flights, five training flights with different airplanes and an in-flight IR data collection.

Furthermore, BwVC escorted four OS passive observation flights which were conducted by Russia (3) and Ukraine (1) as well as one OS training flight over Germany.  
see <http://disarmament.un.org/TreatyStatus.nsf>

#### **c) Vienna Document**

The Vienna Document aims at strengthening confidence and security among the participating States, which pledge to refrain from the threat or use of force, by stipulating an exchange of information and providing possibilities for verifying the submitted data. This is accompanied by mechanisms for consultation and cooperation.

Germany signed the Vienna Document 1999 and made the following contributions to its implementation in 2006:

BwVC representatives accepted all seventeen invitations submitted in the framework of contacts. An invitation to contacts may comprise several individual contacts that take place one after the other. Such an invitation will be counted as one invitation to contacts. In 2006, BwVC representatives participated in the following individual contact events pursuant to

Chapters IV and V of the Vienna Document 1999: 14 visits to air bases, 17 visits to military facilities and 6 demonstrations of new major weapon systems.

*In toto*, three evaluation visits and four inspections were conducted, including two reciprocal bilateral inspections.<sup>1</sup> The practice of inviting guest inspectors to participate in every measure led by Germany has proven its worth and served as a means to make more OSCE participating States familiar with the VD 99 verification regime and to involve those states actively in the implementation measures. Germany dispatched a guest inspector each to five inspections and one evaluation visit conducted by other participating States in 2006.

BwVC representatives escorted two inspections and two evaluation visits (one of them bilateral) pursuant to the Vienna Document 1999 on the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany.

In 2006, Germany invited the participating States to a visit to an air base and to a visit to a military facility, and it supported the United States of America in preparing and conducting a visit to a military facility in Germany.

In the reporting period, no military activities took place which were on a scale that, pursuant to the VD 99, is subject to prior notification and observation. The possibility of a voluntary notification of military activities below the thresholds stipulated in the VD 99 was established in a statement of the chairman of the OSCE Forum for Security Cooperation in October 2005. Germany notified, on a voluntary basis, such a militarily significant exercise in spring 2006.

As in 2005, Germany provided training support to other OSCE participating States again in 2006. Two officers from Tajikistan received instruction on the conduct of inspections pursuant to the Vienna Document 1999; this training activity was supported by an Austrian instructor.

Furthermore, Germany started in 2005 to support a Central Asian state in the establishment of a regional arms control training center, and it will continue to assist this project in future.  
[http://www.osce.org/documents/html/pdf/html/4265\\_en.pdf.html](http://www.osce.org/documents/html/pdf/html/4265_en.pdf.html)

#### **d) OSCE Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security**

Germany has fully implemented the Code of Conduct and is regularly taking part in the information exchange on the implementation of the Code of Conduct. The German contribution is available under:

<http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/diplo/de/Aussenpolitik/Abroestung/InternatOrgane/OSZE/Uebersicht.html>

#### **e) Dayton Peace Agreement**

In 2006, Germany continued to assist the Parties to the Dayton Peace Agreement in the implementation of their obligations.

In 2006, assistants from the Bundeswehr Verification Center participated in both inspection and escort teams in a total of seven missions within the scope of quota inspections pursuant to the Article IV Agreement (in accordance with Annex 1-B to the Dayton Peace Agreement).

<sup>1</sup> One measure each with Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro.

Germany is supporting the Office of the Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office for Article IV of the Dayton Peace Agreement with personnel.

Under the umbrella of Annex 1-B, Article V, to the Dayton Peace Agreement, four verification measures were conducted in 2006 in the form of mutual evaluation visits between Germany and Croatia as well as Germany and Bosnia and Herzegovina. These visits were carried out pursuant to the rules of the Vienna Document 1999, and the teams included guest inspectors, among others from states of the region.

The personnel support the Regional Conventional Arms Control Division of BwVC has rendered to the OSCE Conflict Prevention Center in Vienna since 1996 will be continued. Germany will continue to support the NATO School and RACVIAC by dispatching instructors for training activities within the framework of the Dayton Peace Accords.

Information on the Dayton Peace Agreement can be found on the following website:  
[http://www.ohr.int/dpa/default.asp?content\\_id=380](http://www.ohr.int/dpa/default.asp?content_id=380)

**f) Convention on the prohibition of the use, stockpiling, production and transfer of anti-personnel mines and on their destruction (Ottawa Convention)**

Germany signed the Ottawa Convention on 3 December 1997 and, by 1 March 1999, had destroyed its national stockpiles with more than 1.7 million anti-personnel mines. Since 1992, Germany has committed an amount of more than 205 million USD to mine action projects in more than 42 mine-affected countries. Germany is regularly taking part in the yearly transparency measures according to Art. 7 of the Convention.

The German annual report 2006 is published on the following website:  
<http://www.unog.ch/80256EE600585943/> (httpPages)

**g) UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW).**

Germany ratified and implemented the Convention and its 5 Protocols. Germany is providing annual reports according to Art. 13 of Amended Protocol II.

The 2006 annual report can be found on the following website:  
<http://www.unog.ch/80256ee600585943.nsf/>

**h) UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**

Germany submits a national report on the implementation of the UN PoA. The latest report 2005-2006 is available on the website:

<http://disarmament.un.org/cab/salw-nationalreports.html>

**i) OSCE Document on SALW**

Germany takes part in the information exchange pursuant to the OSCE Document on SALW every year. The latest report of 2005 was submitted to the OSCE on 11 July 2006.

Furthermore Germany dispatches experts for staff assessment visits on a regular basis, and continuously evaluates the applications for support which are received from other participating States.

**j) OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition**

Germany dispatches experts for staff assessment visits on a regular basis, and continuously evaluates the applications for support which are received from other participating States. Furthermore Germany supports the efforts of the OSCE to develop a "Best Practise Guide on ammunition" (BPG). The aim of this BPG is to give the member states and interested states guidance on how to handle ammunition.

**k) OSCE Document on Principles Governing Conventional Arms Transfers**

Germany takes part each year in the information exchange on conventional arms transfers. The latest report of 2005 was submitted to the OSCE on 11 August 2006. Furthermore, Germany annually submits answers to the Questionnaire on the Participating State's Policy and/or National Practices and Procedures for the Export of Conventional Arms and Related Technology.

**l) UN Register of Conventional Arms (UNGA Resolution 61/77)**

Each year, Germany submits a national report under the UN Register of Conventional Arms. The latest report of 2006 will be available on the website:  
<http://disarmament.un.org/cab/register.html>

**m) UN Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures (UNGA Resolution 60/44)**

Each year, Germany submits a national report according to the Instrument for Reporting Military Expenditures. The latest report of 2006 is available on the website:  
<http://disarmament.un.org/cab/milex.html>

**3. Other German Activities (Conferences and Seminars) with regard to CBMs in 2006  
(list is not exhaustive)**

A seminar about the "Political Aspects of Conventional Arms Control in Europe" was conducted in Berlin in December 2006. Seminars about the "Vienna Document 1999", the "Open Skies Treaty" and a special seminar about the "Political Importance of Conventional Disarmament and Arms Control in Europe" are planned for 2007.