

RZECZPOSPOLITA POLSKA
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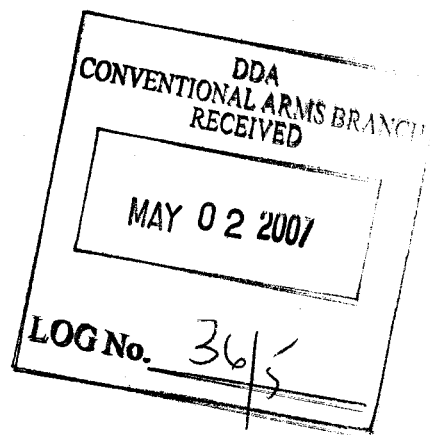
New York, 2 May 2007

The Permanent Mission of the Republic of Poland to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the Secretariat of the United Nations and with regard to the resolution 61/79, entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms" and resolution 61/81, entitled "Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context", both adopted by the General Assembly on 6 December 2006 without a vote, has the honour to hereby submit a consolidated national report containing the relevant information required by the above mentioned resolutions.

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



Office for Disarmament Affairs
United Nations Secretariat
New York, NY 10017



Report of the Republic of Poland on resolutions:
„Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms”
(A/RES/61/79)
“Confidence-building measures in the regional and subregional context”
(A/RES/61/81)

Poland's policy on conventional arms control, disarmament and confidence and security building measures plays an important role in the overall security policy of the country. It is also closely linked to the arms control policy of the institutions and organizations that Poland belongs to: NATO and the EU.

Poland is a party to several multilateral agreements related to conventional arms control and confidence and security building measures that have been negotiated and implemented under the aegis of the OSCE (in a broad sense): The Treaty on the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE), the Treaty on Open Skies (OS), The Vienna Document '99 on the Confidence and Security Building Measures (VD), The Code of Conduct on the Political-Military Aspect of Security (CoC) and other documents.

Additional bilateral agreements on CSBMs concluded by Poland – Ukraine and Belarus

The main philosophy behind the additional bilateral agreements on CSBMs is contained in the Chapter X of the Vienna Document on the Confidence and Security Building Measures (VD) : to expand already existing confidence and security-building measures in the pan-European scale.

The main body of both agreements is following: additional exchange of military information, implementation of additional system of verification (inspections and evaluation visits), additional observation of certain military activities, introduction of new ways to obtain clarifications on the military activities, establishment of regular meetings on the level of Verification Units of the states involved.

The agreement on additional CSBMs with Ukraine was signed by the Ministers of National Defence of both states in November 2004. It entered into force on 30 November 2004. however, the practical implementation started in 2005.

The Belarusian authorities issued an invitation to enter the bilateral talks on additional CSBMs in July 2001. Following several rounds of consultations, the text was adopted. Missions to the OSCE of the two states exchanged notes and informed about that other OSCE Participating States. The bilateral agreement entered into force on 20 July 2004. However, the heads of the Verification Units decided to start practical co-operation in 2005.

Implementation to date:

There have been no problems with the overall implementation of both agreements. Some trends should be noticed: 1) the decreasing role of provisions on the notification and observation of military activities in the zone of application - it seems unlikely that in future any notifiable activity will be conducted in the border zone, as specified in both agreements. It confirms that there is already a high degree of confidence and stability in the region of Central and Eastern Europe; 2) due to the fact that the subject of verification are only the military units in the zone of application (about 80 km. of the border regions) in practice the same units are visited every year. There are plans to include into the inspection teams and escort teams representatives of the units from the

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border regions of Poland so to enable them to expand the so-called transborder co-operation, in the spirit of the VD (Para. 30.1.2)

Both agreements have been important to confirm the will of the neighbouring states to expand the co-operation in the military sphere. The Polish membership in the North Atlantic Alliance and the EU created another impulse to conclude such agreements just to show the neighbours that stay outside the two organizations that Poland intends to continue and even to intensify our partner ties with them.