



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE TO THE UNITED NATIONS

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CONVENTIONAL ARMS BRANCH
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APR 29 2010

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NOTE VERBALE

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office for Disarmament Affairs of the United Nations and with reference to the latter's Notes, ODA/18-2011/CBMRSC dated 7 April 2011 and ODA/08-2011/ICBM dated 25 March 2011, has the honour to provide the following information:

CONFIDENCE AND SECURITY BUILDING MEASURES (CSBM) IN THE FIELD OF CONVENTIONAL ARMS

1. The confidence and security building measures (CSBM) refer to a series of measures that are designed to render transparency and larger capability of prediction for military issues, for the concerned states to adapt.

2. Greece participates in the enforcement of stability, security and cooperation among the member nations of OSCE aiming to enhance the regional security institutions and to eliminate the tensions in the concerned areas.

3. Greece, as an OSCE member state, attributes a special importance to the role that OSCE is called to play in the international security environment, and participates to the majority of the initiatives aiming to enhancing OSCE strength and to employing its capabilities towards crisis prevention and management.

4. Motivated of the fundamental need to promote and ensure the confidence and security in the OSCE area of application, in order to avoid the occurrence of threat or violence in the international environment, Greece steadily supports the initiatives of the aforementioned organization implementing the following confidence and security building measures in the arms control field.

Secretariat of the United Nations
Office for Disarmament Affairs
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New York

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a. Vienna Document 99

According to the provisions of the document Greece applies, in annual basis, the following measures:

(1) The exchange of military information and the changes to the structure and organization of the armed forces units.

(2) The exchange of the defense planning text regarding the defense policy, the military strategy and the doctrine, along with the armed forces procurement and armaments expenditure.

(3) The military contracts with other OSCE member states via visits to airbases and military facilities. This year Greece will organize a visit to airbases and military facility along with a demonstration of new types of major weapon systems.

(4) The former eastern countries military units evaluation and inspection, based on NATO coordination and the bilateral military cooperation, mainly with the Balkan countries. Greece also receives passive evaluations and inspections. In 2010, one inspection to Serbia was conducted. Russian Federation conducted one inspection and one evaluation visit to Greece.

(5) The prior notification of certain military activities.

b. Global Exchange of Military Information – GEMI

Greece annually exchanges with the rest of OSCE participating states general military information concerning the conventional forces in formation level (personnel and 7 types of weapons systems of Army, Navy and Air force such as Battle Tanks, Armored Combat Vehicles, Artillery, Combat Aircrafts, Attack Helicopters, Warships and Submarines).

c. DAYTON Agreement (Annex 18. Article IV)

Even though our country is not a co-signatory member of the Agreement, participates annually, under OSCE auspices, with military inspectors - escorts in the multinational teams composed to this end to assist to the implementation of Article IV of DAYTON Agreement, Annex 1 B.

d. Conventional Arms Transfers

(1) Based on UN decision number 46/36L/91 and the OSCE FSC.DEC 13/97, data on import – export of the previous year of 7 types of main weapon systems (Tanks, Armored Vehicles, Artillery, Combat Aircrafts, Attack Helicopters, Warships and Submarines), are available annually along

with the existing weapon systems and holdings. Man Portable Air Defense Systems MANPADS are also included.

(2) Additionally, as a result of FSC.DEC 20/95, there is an annual data exchange over the policy of Conventional Arms Transfers.

e. Code of Conduct on Politico-Military Aspects of Security

(1) The Code of Conduct covers the politico-military aspects of Armed Forces personnel of OSCE member states, based on the International and Humanitarian Law.

(2) According to FSC. DEC 1/09, information concerning the implementation of the provisions of the Code of Conduct are exchanged annually, as provided for by an adopted questionnaire.

f. Small Arms and Light Weapons

In the field of Small Arms and Light Weapons, during the previous year, Greece exchanges information for the exports to and imports from other participating states.

The Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the Secretariat of the United Nations – Office for Disarmament Affairs, the assurances of its highest consideration. ↓

New York, April 26, 2011

