

## **Information on confidence building measures in the field of conventional arms**

### **Czech Republic**

*(According to Resolution adopted by the General Assembly 67/49)*

Arms control and non-proliferation belong to one of priorities of the Czech foreign policy. It makes an effort to actively prevent armed conflicts through preventive diplomacy with emphasis on multilateral cooperation. Should a crisis or armed conflict arise, the Czech Republic seeks timely resolution by diplomatic means whenever possible.

The Czech Republic is party to the following international Treaties and Conventions in the field of conventional arms control, disarmament, confidence and security building measures and export control regimes:

- Anti-Personnel Landmine Convention
- Convention on Cluster Munition
- Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons
- United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and the Implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons
- Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe
- Vienna Document
- Open Skies Treaty
- The Wassenaar Arrangement on Export Controls for Conventional Arms and Dual Use Goods and Technologies.

The Czech Republic continuously implements all commitments stemming from international agreements on conventional arms control, disarmament and confidence- and security-building measures in Europe. Their implementation is regularly reported to the pertinent organizations. Information exchange is taking place where required.

In accordance with Czech law, promulgated treaties, to the ratification of which the Parliament has given its consent and by which the Czech Republic is bound, form a part of the legal order; if a treaty provides something other than that which a statute provides, the treaty shall apply. Where necessary the provisions are implemented by special laws. In other cases the provisions are self-executing in the Czech Republic.

The Criminal Code of the Czech Republic (no. 40/2009 of the Collection of Laws) includes paragraph no. 280, called “Development, production and possession of prohibited means of combat”. This provision determines that it is a crime to develop, produce, import, export, store or accumulate weapons or means of combat prohibited by law or international treaty, or to dispose of these weapons or means of combat in any other way. This provision further determines possible punishment for such a crime – imprisonment for a term of two years up to eight years.

Law on prohibition of cluster munitions had been adopted on 21 June 2011 (no. 213/2011 of the Collection of Laws) to implement the Convention on Cluster Munitions. The Convention as well as the Law entered into force for the Czech Republic on 1 March 2012.

#### **The Czech Republic according to Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty:**

- organized and conducted one multinational inspection abroad (with participation of four inspectors from four countries),

- organized two multinational training inspections (with participation of twenty inspectors from ten countries),
- took part in five allied inspection teams abroad;

**according to Vienna Document:**

- organized one evaluation visit and two inspections of specified area and received two inspections of specified area;
- took part in one visit to air base and other military facility and in show of new types of weapons;
- took part in four inspections as a part of foreign teams;
- participated as an assistant in two inspections conducted in accordance with Article IV of the Dayton Peace Agreement;

**under Treaty on Open Skies:**

- received one observation flights and conducted two join observation flights.

As for **Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty** it finds itself at the crossroads. The Czech Republic considers the preservation of effective conventional arms control regime as one of the key elements of the European security. The Czech Republic stands ready to work with all States Parties towards revitalization of the conventional arms control in Europe that will preserve the indispensable principles of transparency, restraint and host nation consent.