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NATIONAL SMALL ARMS LIGHT WEAPONS CONTROL AND COLLECTION STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

2013, Pristina



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ABBREVIATIONS

MIA Ministry of Internal Affairs

MFE Ministry of Finances and Economy

MoJ Ministry of Justice

MTI Ministry of Trade and Industry

MAFRD Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

MLSW Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare

KIA Kosovo Intelligence Agency

MEST Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

MCYS Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

MoH Ministry of Health

MFA Ministry of Foreign Affairs

KP Kosovo Police

KFA Kosovo Forensic Agency

KC Kosovo Customs

KJC Kosovo Judicial Council

UNDP United Nations Development Programme

OSCE Organization for Cooperation and Security in Europe

EC European Council

NGO Non-Governmental Organization

SALW Small Arms Light Weapons

I.INTRODUCTION

There are an estimated 875 million small arms in circulation worldwide of which an estimate of 650 million are in private ownership, 200 million belong to defense forces and about 26 million to law enforcement agencies. As in most of the world, in Kosovo the state is not the primary holder of guns; civilians are. Internationally it has proven that it is very difficult to get a correct number of illegal weapons in a country and as such many organizations have provided various surveys or came to an estimate of illegal weapons in Kosovo but no definite figure have ever been agreed upon.

Nevertheless the availability of illegal weapons and their treat to the society is high and is mainly demonstrated by confiscation of about 2 to 3 weapons by Kosovo Police on a daily level. Additionally most of these weapons are stored in homes. According to international research a gun in the home is much more likely to be used to intimidate or physically injury family members than be used against and outside intruder. The most visible sign of weapons possession in Kosovo is celebratory fire which is at its highest during the summer months (marriages) and New Year celebration. During other occasional celebrations gunshots can be heard on a regular basis.

In response to this threat, the Ministry of Internal Affairs have implemented a SALW control and collection strategy and action plan since 2008 as the first integrated response to this problem. This action plan has put in place an institutional and legal framework concerning this issue, as well provides capacity building elements and exchange of experience, technical tools and services to counter this type of crime. The strategy has aimed to address supply as well as demand for SALW.

The strategy on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) of the Republic of Kosovo focus on all aspects of Small Arms and Light weapons Possession for citizens as well as law enforment. The mayor aim of this integrated approach is to have FULL control over Small Arms and Light Weapons in accordance to UN, EU and OSCE standards.

This strategy recognizes that full control over small arms and mammunition cannot be achieved by law enforcement only and therefore includes a substantila demand reduction component aiming at gaining support form the civilian population. Furthermore this strategy contemplates denial of transport of illegal firearms and ammunition into and outside the country but also addresses the suplly of illegal weapons already in the country (illegal possession).

Another vital component to achieving our goal of controlling small arms and light weapoons is partnering with other law enforcement agencies. This means improving and expanding our coordination and partnerships nationally, regionally and globally.

Last but not least, it will be required that we will concentrate our limited resources as much as possible on quality implementation of operations aimed at gun violence reduction and increase capacity of human resources as well as tools for small arms control and collection.

Small arms and light weapons control means when a country prohibits or restricts the development, production, stockpiling, proliferation, distribution or usage of SALW. SALW control is also associated with bilateral or multilateral treaties and agreements and through the implementation of this strategy, Kosovo will further fulfil its responsibility in that field.

Noticeable achievements were made in the field of institutional framework by establishment of the Department of Public Safety which is now fully capable to supervise and implement the Law on Weapons, Law on Private Security Services and the Law on Weapons, Ammunition and other Related

Equipment for State Security Institutions. The first training institutions have been licensed and provided theoretical and practical training to increase safety for gun users.

Kosovo Police is further enforcing the legislative framework and confiscating over 1500 firearms a year.

Coordination mechanisms are in place to control supply of firearms and including all necessary institutions and provide full control over every legal stockpile in the Republic of Kosovo.

Nevertheless challenges remain and will be addressed in this revised strategy: among which are the following: legalization and deactivation of firearms in line with the law on weapons has not started yet, organized crime networks are further trafficking alarm pistols and converting them to lethal weapons and more detailed data on these firearms but also on ammunition is required in order to participate in the issue of international tracing of illegal weapons and illegal weapons used in crime.

This program based approach does not stand alone and will link to several other strategies as in particular to the Kosovo Security Policy; Community Safety Strategy; Crime Prevention Strategy; and Strategy on Organized Crime.

II.VISION AND MISSION

Vision

The vision of this strategy is that Kosovo will be a safe environment where small arms and light weapons are under control.

Mission

The mission of this Strategy is to lay down general objectives, specific objectives and activities concerning small arms and light weapons (SALW) related issues as well as harmonize national and international inter-institutional actions for the achievement of the objectives defined within the Strategy and in particular:

- 1. Build further institutional capacities for the successful supervision and implementation of SALW related regulations;
- 2. To reduce gun crime and gun violence in Kosovo;
- 3. To cut off the illegal supply of guns and ammunition in Kosovo;
- 4. To remove illegal weapons and ammunition already available in circulation in Kosovo;
- 5. To reduce demand for weapons among the society;
- 6. Promote participation of civil society groups (with a special focus on inclusion of women and vulnerable groups) in development and implementing of SALW control policies, violence prevention and disarmament strategies;
- 7. To implement law and order, foster community empowerment and support opportunities for lawful, sustainable livelihoods in the communities most affected by violence;
- 8. To support regional security by controlling guns, among other aspects of transnational organized crime and;
- 9. To further develop institutional mechanisms for implementation of the Kosovo Small Arms Light Weapons control and collection strategy.

III. METHODOLOGY

The National Small Arms Light Weapons Control and Collection Strategy is based on the fundamental principles emanating from the Constitution of Kosovo, the applicable legislation, international legal instruments as well as best international practices.

Illegal possession of SALW and their daily use is a phenomenon that further needs additional attention. It is mandatory that all institutions are implementing an integrated response towards this issue, therefore in line with international standards and as a control organization the Government has appointed a National Coordination and Secretariat within the Ministry of Internal Affairs.

As a state responsibility Kosovo contributes to the international fight against illegal SALW and it will be necessary to increase regional and international cooperation to trace weapons as well as identify perpetrators involved in SALW trafficking.

In order to ensure further success in implementation of SALW control, this strategy will further have to be implemented in central and local level. SALW control strategies are not successful without support from law abiding citizens. Raising the awareness of individuals and the society in general enables decision-making and accountability with regard to SALW misuse.

The drafting of this national strategy is focused in defining the strategic objectives, further preparing the staff and joint actions of all institutions to be undertaken within the next four years (2013-2016).

Seeing the complexity of SALW related issues and their root causes, this strategy proposes the following 4 main objectives:

- Illegal entries and supply will be deterred through improved enforcement;
- 2. By 2016, demand for firearms, ammunition and explosives will be reduced with 20 per cent among Kosovo population;
- 3. More efficient and higher quality gun crime investigation and convictionwill be ensured through better cooperation, coordination and mutual assistance;
- 4. By 2016, stakeholders will have the knowledge, conditions and resources needed to implement improved Small Arms Light Weapons control and collection methods.

Specific objectives for these 4 main objectives will be described later in this document.

IV. GENERAL PRINCIPLES

The objectives foreseen within the National SALW Control and Collection Strategy and Action Plan are guided by the following principles:

4.1 The Principle of Constitutionality and Legality

The SALW Control and Collection Strategy is based on provisions provided for by the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, the legislation in force and international legal instruments.

4.2 The Principle of Human Rights Protection

The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo guarantees the rights of all Kosovo citizens, and in particular rights of women and children, regardless of ethnic background, gender, age and religion.

Children and youth have the right to live in an environment that is protected from SALW misuse.

4.3 The Principle of Health Care

The treatment of individuals that have become a victim of SALW violence is based on the principles of health care described within the Law on Health of Kosovo, guidelines and protocols in force in the Kosovo health service.

4.4 The Principle of Guaranteeing the Safety of all Citizens

The Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo guarantees the right to safety and protection of all citizens. This principle also refers to the decrease in the SALW-related crime rate.

4.5 The Principle of Continuity

A continuous and comprehensive involvement of all institutions and various actors is required for combating this problem.

4.6 The Principle of Inclusion

At present, SALW misuse is a common issue the entire world is confronted with. This issue spreads over and affects all levels of the society including the local community, groups, family and individuals.

The principle of inclusion concerns the inclusion of all institutions and other mechanisms as well as the society in general in dealing with this issue at the national and international level.

4.7 The Principle of Sharing Experiences and Responsibilities and Common Approach

This principle concerns the exchange of experiences and best practices, sharing responsibilities at all levels, as well as the common approach adopted by all actors in controlling SALW.

4.8 The Principle of the Right to be Informed

This principle concerns the right and obligation to inform all citizens of the Republic of Kosovo in relation to the risks and consequences of SALW use.

V. LEGAL MECHANISMS

In controlling small arms and light weapons, the Republic of Kosovo has in effect a wide legislative base, wherein in terms of primary legislation the following can be mentioned but not limited to:

- 1. Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo;
- 2. Criminal Code of Kosovo;
- 3. Criminal Procedure Code;
- 4. Law on Police;
- 5. Law on the Execution of Penal Sanctions;
- 6. Law on Kosovo Intelligence Agency;
- 7. Law on Kosovo Forensic Agency;
- 8. Law on Weapons, Ammunition and Related Security equipment for State security institutions;
- 9. Law on Trade in Strategic Goods;
- 10. Law on Private Security Services;
- 11. Juvenile Justice Code;
- 12. Customs and Excise Code;
- 13. Law on Weapons;
- 14. Law on Hunting;
- 15. Law on Kosovo Security Force;
- 16. Law on Civil Use of Explosives;
- 17. Law on Public Peace and Order;
- 18. Law on Foreigners;
- 19. Law on State Border Control and Surveillance.

Although Kosovo has not signed or ratified specific SALW related International conventions, its legal acts are based on the following international legal instruments:

- 1. Council Directive 91/477/EEC of 18 June 1991 on the control of the acquisition and possession of weapons;
- 2. EU Council Directive 2008/51/EC amending the EU Council Directive 91/477/EC;
- 3. EU Common Position 2003/468/CFSP of 23 June 2003 on the control of Arms Brokering;
- 4. EU Code of conduct on Arms Exports, 08 June 1998;
- 5. COUNCIL JOINT ACTION of 12 July 2002 on the European Union's contribution to combating the destabilizing accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons and repealing Joint Action 1999/34/CFSP (2002/589/CFSP);
- 6. EU COUNCIL COMMON POSITION 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment;
- 7. UN Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime;
- 8. UN International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons;
- 9. UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.
- 10. OSCE Decision No. 8/04 OSCE Principles On The Control Of Brokering In Small Arms And Light Weapons;

- 11. OSCE DECISION No. 5/04 Standard Elements Of End-User Certificates And Verification Procedures For SALW Exports;
- 12. OSCE Document on Stockpiles Of Conventional Ammunition.

VI. MAIN OBJECTIVES and linkage to Functional Areas:

Objective 1: Illegal entries or exits and supply will be deterred through improved enforcement

Specific Objectives will be:

- 1.1. Applicable legislation on import, export and transit including embargoes and European Code of Conduct on Arms Export are successfully implemented;
- 1.2. By 2014, detailed analysis regarding firearms, ammunition and explosives has been conducted distributed;
- 1.3. By 2015, weapons and ammunition are a primary data entry in new ILP database solution;
- 1.4. Fight against illegal possession and trafficking of firearms, ammunition and explosives;
- 1.5. By 2014, all weapons and ammunition storage houses within law enforcement comply with the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG).

Objective 2: By 2016, demand for firearms, ammunition and explosives will be reduced with 20 % among Kosovo population.

Specific Objectives will be:

- 2.1. Relevant legislative framework further developed and amended when necessary, including secondary legislation
- 2.2. Legislation of firearms of category B, C and D1 successfully ongoing;

Objective 3: Ensure more efficient and higher quality gun crime investigation through better cooperation, coordination and mutual assistance; Specific Objectives will be:

- 3.1. Increased cooperation between law enforcement and justice institutions;
- 3.2. Increased cooperation and information sharing between relevant actors for border control, which means the police and customs;
- 3.3. Ballistic Intelligence link between Kosovo Police and Kosovo Forensic Agency operational
- 3.4. Increased cooperation with regional partners;
- 3.5. Increase cooperation with international institutions;

Objective 4: By 2016, stakeholders will have the knowledge, conditions and resources needed to implement improved Small Arms Light Weapons control and collection methods.

Specific Objectives will be:

- 4.1. Basic training requirement fulfilled;
- 4.2. Specialist training requirement fulfilled;
- 4.3. Technical and technological capacities

VII. INSTITUTIONAL MECHANISMS

The institutional mechanism concerns the role and coordination of the activities deriving from the SALW Control and Collection Strategy, with a main priority given to the Ministry of Internal Affairs as delegated by the Government, pursuant to the decision of 23 May 2007.

7.1 National Coordinator

The National Coordinator is the responsible person, mandated to coordinate, direct, monitor and report on the implementation of policies, activities and actions in relation to the SALW Control and Collection Strategy.

The National Coordinator will also functions as the National Focal Point on SALW for relevant International organizations.

7.2 Secretariat

Is an established body, with the function to collect information and data from other institutions, analyse and evaluate such information, as well as draft analytical reports for the National Coordinator.

Further, the tasks of the Secretariat are assisting the national coordinator in the following issues:

- identify, determine and (if possible) quantify the impact of SALW on society, human security and safety, and economic and social development within their geographical area of responsibility;
- b) determine the aim of a SALW control intervention within their geographical area of responsibility;
- c) derive the operational objectives of a SALW control intervention from the aim;
- d) develop and disseminate a 'national SALW action plan';
- e) ensure the availability of, and mobilise where necessary, sufficient resources to carry out the national SALW action plan;
- f) approve detailed SALW intervention proposals of all appropriate stakeholders, including legislative issues, in support of the national SALW action plan;
- g) coordinate the activities of all appropriate stakeholders in support of the national SALW action plan;
- h) disseminate timely information to all appropriate stakeholders in support of the national SALW action plan;
- i) monitor, or ensure the monitoring of, all SALW intervention components in support of the national SALW action plan;

¹ Appropriate stakeholders could include, among others, government departments, police, armed forces, United Nations organisations (UN DDA, UNDP, UNICEF, UNIFEM), NATO (NAMSA), OSCE Missions, EU Missions, NGOs and civil society organisations (CSO).

- j) evaluate all SALW intervention components in support of the national SALW action plan;
- k) update the national SALW action plan when appropriate to respond to changing operational situations:
- ensure the reporting of national SALW intervention measures to the UN Department of I) Disarmament Affairs (DDA) in accordance with the UN SALW Plan of Action;²
- m) ensure the reporting of national SALW intervention measures to the OSCE in accordance with the OSCE Document on SALW;3 and
- ensure that the UN Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking of SALW,⁴ EU n) Code of Conduct ⁵ and any UN sanctions are complied with for the export of SALW.

7.3 Ministry of Internal Affairs - Kosovo Police

MIA has a functional role in achieving certain objectives defined within this strategy. The Ministry, through Kosovo Police, has full authority in combating illegal activities involving: use, purchase, possession, sale, distribution, import, export, processing, cultivation and production of SALW, ammunition and explosive materials.

The Department of Public Safety will supervise and implement SALW related laws and is the competent body (execution body) for all export and import in Kosovo for as well individuals, business entities and Equipment for special purposes. Its mentoring and evaluation capacity is responsible for adequate recommendations for steering the SALW Control and collection strategy.

Kosovo Police, together with the Kosovo Customs, are the frontier institutions in preventing and combating illegal activities alongside the Kosovo border. Hence, their cooperation and coordination is crucial for strengthening the control over illegal activities that would damage the safety in Kosovo.

The MoIA and especially the Department for Public safety will closely cooperate with the Ministry of Transport to synchronize with the Law on Dangerous Goods.

7.4. Role of Ministry of Justice

Ministry of Justice is an important part of the National SALW Control and Collection Strategy and its role is to:

- Strengthen the rule of law in order to eliminate illegal SALW possession, and
- Complete legislation in the rule of law area in order to increase the efficiency in achieving the strategic goals for SALW-related criminality;

² The United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in all of its aspects, July 2001.

³ OSCE Document on SALW, 24 November 2000.

⁴ The United Nations Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Trans-national Organized

⁵ EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports, 08 June 1998.

• Strengthen professional and technical capacities of the Correction Service and Probation Service in combating all negative phenomena in prisons and externally for persons in probation.

7.5. Role of Ministry of Economy and Finances – Kosovo Customs

Kosovo Customs, as the law enforcement agency under the responsibility of the Ministry of Economy and Finances, has a role in controlling all goods entering and leaving Kosovo.

The Integrated Border Management National Strategy and Action Plan provides the direction that should be followed in order to strengthen cooperation and coordination between these two main bodies in combating the use, trade, transport and production of illegal SALW, ammunition and explosive materials.

7.6. Role of the Ministry of Health

Ministry of Health participates in the examination of medical capability to possess a weapon in Kosovo, in accordance with Law on Weapons.

MoH executes these activities via assigned health institutions and the personnel employed within them.

MoH will continuously monitor the medical capability of weapons owners and inform the MoIA when an individual loses that capability, proven through a medical check up.

7.7. Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology participates in the SALW use prevention, through regular education programmes, by organizing curricular and extracurricular activities wherein parents and the community can be involved.

Department for development of Pre-University Education is responsible to implement regular programmes and organize extracurricular activities, cooperating with Kosovo Parents' Committee for Education in relation to various awareness campaigns for the youth in schools.

7.8. Ministry of Trade and Industry

The role of the Ministry of Trade and Industry, in cooperation with the Department of Public Safety and the Kosovo Police, is to control companies involved in the trade in SALW, ammunition and Explosive materials.

7.9. Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals

The Independent Commission for Mines and Minerals will cooperate with the MoIA for adequate implementation of the law on Civil use of explosives.

7.10. Ministry of Local Government Administration

The Ministry of Local Government Administration will assist and advocate active participation of the local authorities towards implementation of this strategy.

7.11. Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning

Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning will cooperate with MoIA for implementation and safeguard explosive stockpiles according to IATG (Explosive Limit License) or other actions being hazardous for the environment.

7.12. Kosovo Prosecutor Office

In accordance with Criminal Procedure Code and the Law on Special Prosecution Office of the Republic of Kosovo, Kosovo Prosecutor Office shall contribute to implementation of this strategy, by prioritizing cases related to commission of criminal offences, organized crime involved in arms trade, illegal possession, control or unauthorized use of weapon as well transactions.

7.13. Kosovo Statistical Office

The Kosovo Statistical Office will cooperate with MoIA in order to ensure effective statistical information on SALW related injuries according to WHO standards.

7.14. Ministry of Kosovo Security Force

MKSF will cooperate in implementation of the activities foreseen by this strategy, which are in accordance with legal framework on KSF.

7.15. Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in cooperation with the MoIA will ensure adequate implementation of embargoes and the European Code of Conduct of Arms Exports.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs will also be the executive agency for approving and sending out progress report to relevant international organizations for control of SALW.

7.16. Kosovo Intelligence Agency

The Kosovo intelligence Agency will cooperate for the implementation of this strategy in activities related to organized crime and SALW as a direct threat to state security.

7.17. Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Rural Development

The role of the Ministry of Agriculture is to responsible for controlling weapons owned by Forest Guards as well as supervision on implementation of the Law on Hunting.

7.18. Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

MCYS supports implementation of this Strategy through implementation of the Youth Action Plan and implementation of the policies on arms in museum, implementation of standards for the Shooting Associations.

7.19. Kosovo Forensic Agency (KFA)

KFA supports the prosecutor's office and the Ministry of Internal Affairs in accordance to relevant law. Additionally it will closely cooperate with Kosovo police in the field of intelligence gathering concerning firearms and ammunition.

VIII. INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SALW production, distribution; conversion and use are an issue that necessitates for the cooperation of institutions and organizations, regional and global, at a partnership level.

In this strategy we aim to create conditions for addressing illegal SALW, in cooperation with European Institutions and the earliest possible integration in the European Union.

Mutual cooperation and collaboration between Kosovo institutions and other international institutions involved in preventing, combating and controlling SALW is required.

IX. STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION, MONITORING AND EVALUATION

9.1 Role of the monitoring system

Strategy implementation process will encompass the achievement of the strategic objectives, specific objectives and activities. The monitoring and evaluation of the outcomes of objective implementation and the effectiveness of respective activities will comprise an integral part of the Strategy process and the key components to its delivery. Monitoring and evaluation will provide the means to measure progress in relation to the stated objectives, to evaluate the need and establish the direction of regulations, in particular in relation to activities.

The monitoring process shall be carried out by the responsible institutions, with a wide participation from stakeholders.

The main dimensions of strategy monitoring and evaluation are:

- Institutional capacities;
- Performance indicators:
- Information sources and measuring instruments;
- Dissemination and utilization of the outcomes of monitoring and evaluation.

9.2 Institutional Capacities for Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation system shall cover all institutions responsible for the implementation of objectives defined within the Strategy and Action Plan

- Ministry of Internal Affairs, as the leading institution in strategy implementation, shall establish the Strategy Monitoring and Evaluation Unit under the National SALW Coordinator. This unit shall monitor against the most important indicators in relation to SALW and shall prepare a progress report on the outcomes of objectives' implementation.
- Line Ministries will report on the monitoring and evaluation of the activities allocated to these ministries or their subordinate institutions, including prosecutor offices and courts as well. These institutions will submit periodic reports to the National Coordinator, in order to ensure coherent reporting.
- Non-Governmental Organizations shall take part in monitoring and evaluation, in joint roundtable discussions facilitated by the Coordinator. In these roundtable discussions, civil society will present observation reports with regard to projects and programmes carried out by them.

9.3 Selection of the Monitoring and Evaluation Indicators Final Indicators

- 1. Number of respective laws and sublegal acts, that have been successfully implemented following the approval of the Strategy;
- 2. Structures established
- 3. Number of bilateral and multilateral agreements signed with other countries;
- 4. Strategy monitoring and evaluation reports,
- 5. Percentage of the population that has become aware about the SALW misuse issue,
- 6. Percentage of the demand for weapons
- 7. Number of curriculum and textbooks addressing SALW,
- 8. Number of SALW related cases treated on the medical aspect,
- 9. Number of illegal SALW collected;
- 10. Number of armed violence incidents reported;
- 11. Street price of an illegal weapon;
- 12. Average of sentences and additional measures of confiscation for SALW misuse crime perpetrators
- 13. Number of cases dealt with by the Police, Prosecution and Courts.
- 14. Number of extracurricular activities implemented.

9.4 Intermediate indicators

The intermediate indicators are utilized in monitoring activities set in the Action Plan for controlling SALW.

9.5 Monitoring and Evaluation Instruments

1. Standardized data collection and processing system;

- 2. Administrative, Statistical Data from MIA (Police), MoJ, MoH, MFE (Customs, Kosovo Tax Administration), MEST, Prosecution, Courts, MLSW;
- 3. National and international referral mechanisms;
- 4. Surveys and observations targeted on the population's awareness in relation to SALW issue.

9.6 Dissemination and Use of Monitoring and Evaluation Outcomes

Monitoring and evaluation outcomes shall be disseminated in order to announce progress made in controlling and collecting SALW. Once progress reports are drawn out from data and observations, they will be circulated to users, which include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Central and local institutions,
- 2. International partners,
- 3. Civil society,
- 4. Media
- 5. Wider public.

X. ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan will be drafted within the overall strategic framework defined with the National Small Arms Control and Collection Strategy.

The action plan for the execution of the strategy will be comprised of the following:

- Overall objectives;
- Specific objectives;
- Concrete activities in order to achieve objectives,
- It will determine responsible and supportive institutions for achieving each objective and activity;
- It will specify the timeframe for achieving each objective;
- It will determine necessary funding sources in developing the activities;
- It will determine indicators set against each objective and activity.

The Action Plan should be coherent with the Overall Framework of the National Small Arms and Light Weapons Control and Collection Strategy of the Republic of Kosovo.

Most Relevant International Agreements

Framework or	_	
instrument UN Firearms Protocol ⁶	Summary This is the first major policy document on SALW adopted at the UN. This protocol supplements the 2001 UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. Measures stipulated in the UN Firearms Protocol include: Strengthening national legislation; and Enhanced information exchange among governments on illicit firearms, their traders, sources and trafficking routes.	Action Required Ratification
UN Programme of Action on SALW ⁷	The UN PoA addresses a more comprehensive scope of SALW than the UN Firearms Protocol and also pertains to state-to-state transfers of SALW. It envisions spheres of action against SALW at the international, regional, national and local levels, and calls for close cooperation among states to reach stated goals, including information sharing, assistance and standard setting and highlights the role of regional organizations in fostering this cooperation. Governments have made a commitment to meet every two years to exchange information on their implementation of the PoA.	Joining
OSCE Document on SALW ⁸	The OSCE Document on SALW recognizes the contribution destabilizing accumulations of SALW have made to recent regional conflicts. It divides the tasks for combating the proliferation and spreading of SALW into several categories of norms and measures, and envisages a potential role for its missions and field offices in implementation. These categories encompass: National regulations on SALW, including controls over manufacturing, marking and record-keeping; Monitoring and regulation of international trade in SALW, including brokering regulation, common export criteria and transfer controls and information exchange; and Weapons collection, stockpile management and surplus disposal – crucial to the reduction of destabilizing accumulations and the uncontrolled spread of small arms and the prevention of illicit trafficking.	Joining
OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition ⁹	The OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition was adopted in 2003 and complements the OSCE Document on SALW. The agreement encompasses all categories of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices, including heavy weapons ammunition, all types of mines, missiles and rocket fuel, grenades, fuses. The document provides practical procedures and mechanisms for the destruction of these surplus stockpiles. The final goal is to enable participating states to strengthen their national capacities so they can deal with specific problems on their own, building wherever possible on their own assets.	Joining

 $^{^6}$ Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (the Firearms Protocol). (Entered into Force on 03 July 2005).

 $^{^{7}}$ United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects. (UN Document A/CONF.192/15). July 2001.

 $^{^8}$ OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons. (FSC.JOUR/314). 24 November 2000 9 OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition. (FSC.DOC/1/03). 19 November 2003.

OSCE Decision on Man-Portable Air Defense Systems (MANPADS) ¹⁰	The OSCE Decision on MANPADS adopts the principles for increased export controls of MANPADS, which have been drawn from the Wassenaar Arrangement's 'Elements for Export Controls of Man-Portable Air Defense Systems'.	Joining
OSCE Decision on End User Certificates ¹¹	This decision reaffirms the commitments of participating States to observe, as one of the key standards underpinning export documentation that no export license is issued without an authenticated end-user certificate or some other form of official authorization issued by the receiving State. The decision covers the requirements of End User Certificate documentation and mechanisms.	Joining
OSCE Decision on Brokering ¹²	This decision states the principles agreed by States to control arms brokering in order to avoid circumvention of sanctions adopted by the Security Council of the United Nations; decisions taken by the OSCE, including the criteria set forth in Section II A of the OSCE Document on SALW; other agreements on SALW, or other arms control and disarmament agreements, to minimize the risk of diversion of SALW into illegal markets, <i>inter alia</i> , into the hands of terrorists and other criminal groups; and to reinforce the export control of SALW. In order to achieve these objectives, the participating States will endeavour to ensure that their existing or future national legislation on arms brokering is in conformity with provisions contained within the document	Joining
EU Joint Action on SALW ¹³	The EU through its Joint Action on combating the destabilizing accumulation and spread of small arms, provides financial and technical assistance to countries, groups of countries, international organizations and NGOs which request support. Since 1999, through the Joint Action, the EU has adopted 14 such actions in Eastern Europe, in Latin America and the Caribbean, in Asia and in Africa. Among geographic priorities decided by the European Council, specific attention was given to the destruction of existing stockpiles of SALW in Eastern and South Eastern Europe, and to actions in support of regional moratoria on small arms in Africa.	Joining
EU Code of Conduct on Arms Exports ¹⁴	The EU Code of Conduct represents a model for the control of conventional military exports, which was introduced by the European Union as a political commitment in 1998. It establishes common criteria for the approval of exports and envisages transparency provisions such as the publication of an Annual Report that provides civil society as well as the official community with a tool to evaluate the performance of individual states. The EU Code of Conduct is undergoing its first revision aimed at becoming a legally binding Common Position of the EU.	Joining
EU Strategy to Combat Illicit Accumulation and Trafficking of SALW and	On 16 December 2005, the European Council adopted a Strategy to support the Joint Action on SALW of 2002 (2002/589/CFSP). The Strategy has been written within the framework of the European Security Strategy (2003), as was a similar strategy on Weapons of Mass Destruction in 2003. The aim is to develop an "integrated approach and a	Joining

OSCE Decision on Man-Portable Air Defense Systems. (Decision No. 7/03). (FSC.DEC/07/03). 23 July 2003.
 OSCE Decision on End User Certificates and Verification Procedures for SALW Exports. (Decision No. 05/04). (FSC.DEC/5/04). 17 November 2004.

 $^{^{12}}$ OSCE Decision on Principles for the Control of Brokering in SALW. (Decision No. 08/04). (FSC.DEC/8/04). 24 November

<sup>2004.

13</sup> EU Council Joint Action on the European Union's contribution to combating the destabilising accumulation and spread of small arms and light weapons and repealing Joint Action 1999/34/CFSP. (2002/589/CFSP). 12 July 2002.

14 EU Code of Conduct for Arms Exports, 08 June 1998.

Ammunition ¹⁵	comprehensive plan of action to combat the illicit trade in SALW and their ammunition".	
EU Common Position on Arms Brokering ¹⁶	The objective of the Common Position is to control arms brokering in order to avoid circumvention of UN, EU or OSCE arms embargoes as well as of the criteria stipulated in the EU Code of Conduct. It obliges EU Member States to establish a clear legal framework for brokering activities. Part of this framework is a licensing system where the applications for a license are assessed for specific brokering transactions against the provisions of the EU Code of Conduct. The Common Position also envisages the establishment of an information exchange mechanism on brokering activities.	Joining
Stability Pact SALW Regional Implementation Plan ¹⁷	In November 2001 the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe (SCSP)16 produced a Regional Implementation Plan (SP SALW RIP) to combat the uncontrolled proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). This plan was revised in May 2006. In contrast to many other arms control agreements, the SP SALW RIP provided concrete mechanisms for assisting countries' implementation of commitments and involving those governments in priority setting and decision-making on region-wide efforts. These mechanisms are supported or implemented through SEESAC at the regional level, and through a range of internationally supported initiatives within individual countries.17 At the political level, the SP SALW RIP is to be considered a success, and it has provided a valuable and effective mandate to drive an effective response at the operational level.	Joining

¹⁵ EU Strategy to Combat Illicit Accumulation and Trafficking of SALW and their Ammunition. Council of the European Union 5319/06 of 13 January 2006. (Adopted 15 - 16 December 2005).

16 Council Common Position 2003/468/CFSP of 23 June 2003 on the control of arms brokering. OJ L 156, 25.05.2003, pp. 79-

^{80.}

¹⁷ Combating the Proliferation of SALW - Stability Pact Regional Implementation Plan for South Eastern Europe, 28 November 2001. (Revised May 2006). (www.stabilitypact.org).