



375th Plenary Meeting

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**DECISION No. 18/02
SECURITY RISK ARISING FROM STOCKPILES OF AMMUNITION
AND EXPLOSIVES FOR USE IN CONVENTIONAL ARMAMENTS IN
SURPLUS OR AWAITING DESTRUCTION IN THE OSCE AREA**

The Forum for Security Co-operation,

Considering the security risk to participating States caused by the presence, in some States in the OSCE area, of stockpiles of ammunition and explosives for use in conventional armaments, either in surplus or awaiting destruction, which might be the result of a number of causes, including long crisis or conflict situation, a major reform of the armed forces or another change in the politico-military situation of the country,

Considering that the storage of such stockpiles is sometimes precarious and that the authorities in the countries concerned frequently request the assistance of the international community to address the risk that these stocks can pose to the population and to some other States, and because they are liable to be subject to illicit trafficking or to cause a threat to the environment due to their unsatisfactory conditions of storage,

Noting that none of the present OSCE instruments addresses this issue,

Recognizing that the issue of norms, principles and measures regarding stockpile management of Small Arms and Light Weapons is duly covered by the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons,

Reaffirming its readiness to continue to discuss security concerns, guided by the concept of common and comprehensive security as laid down in the Charter for European Security adopted at the Istanbul Summit, in a spirit of partnership, solidarity and transparency,

Seeking to address the risks and challenges faced by States in the OSCE area in a pragmatic way and recalling the principles defined in Chapter IV of the Lisbon Declaration,

Underscoring the relevance of addressing this issue as a contribution to the implementation of the Bucharest Plan of Action, in which the participating States committed themselves to use the FSC to strengthen their efforts in the fight against terrorism, and to the FSC Road Map,

Recalling the discussions of the Experts Meeting on Combating Terrorism within the Politico-Military Dimension, which took place in Vienna, on 14 and 15 May 2002,

Decides:

- To include in its work programme the question of security risks arising from stockpiles of ammunition and explosives for use in conventional armaments defined by the participating State requesting assistance as surplus or awaiting destruction in the OSCE area;
- To charge its Working Group B to analyse this question and, if appropriate, to identify and study possible concrete measures and projects including their financial implications, in conformity with the Platform for Co-operative Security and taking into account experiences from previous and/or existing projects;
- These possible measures and projects should be complementary to existing activities of other International Organizations as well as of participating States;
- The measures to be elaborated, which will be of a voluntary nature, will aim at reinforcing confidence, security and transparency;
- This study should also be made in conformity with the Road Map for implementation of the Bucharest Plan of Action.