

971st Plenary Meeting

FSC Journal No. 977, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 2/21
OSCE MEETING TO REVIEW THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF OSCE ASSISTANCE PROJECTS IN THE
FIELD OF SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS AND
STOCKPILES OF CONVENTIONAL AMMUNITION**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Mindful of the OSCE's important role in combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons (SALW) in all its aspects and of its endeavours to help prevent and reduce the excessive and destabilizing accumulation and uncontrolled spread of SALW,

Recognizing the continuing importance of OSCE measures aimed at addressing the security and safety risks and threats related to stockpiles of SALW and stockpiles of conventional ammunition (SCA) in surplus and/or awaiting destruction in some States in the OSCE area,

Reaffirming its commitment to strengthening efforts aimed at ensuring the full implementation of the OSCE Document on SALW (FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1, 20 June 2012), the OSCE Document on SCA (FSC.DOC/1/03/Rev.1, 23 March 2011) and related FSC decisions,

Recalling Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/17 (MC.DEC/10/17), the Ministerial Council Declarations on OSCE Assistance Projects in the Field of SALW and SCA (MC.DOC/3/16) and on the OSCE Efforts in the Field of Norms and Best Practices on SALW and SCA (MC.DOC/5/18),

Commending the successful projects conducted by the OSCE to address a wide range of security and safety risks related to the presence of surpluses of conventional ammunition, explosive material and detonating devices; the presence of highly toxic rocket fuel components; degraded physical infrastructure and poor stockpile management and security practices; the presence of explosive remnants of war and landmines; and illicit trafficking in SALW,

Decides:

1. To organize an OSCE meeting to review the implementation of OSCE assistance projects in the field of SALW and SCA, to be held in Vienna on 5 and 6 October 2021 (with the possibility of being held remotely via video conference), in accordance with the programme, indicative timetable and organizational arrangements annexed to this decision;
2. To request the OSCE Secretariat to support the organization of this meeting;
3. To invite the OSCE participating States to consider providing extrabudgetary contributions for the above-mentioned event.

**OSCE MEETING TO REVIEW THE
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Vienna, 5 and 6 October 2021

I. Programme and indicative timetable

Tuesday, 5 October 2021

10–10.30 a.m.	Opening session
10.30–11 a.m.	Working session I: Assistance mechanism under the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA
11–11.30 a.m.	Coffee break
11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Continuation of working session I
1–3 p.m.	Lunch break
3–4 p.m.	Working session II: Progress in the implementation of SALW and SCA assistance projects
4–4.30 p.m.	Coffee break
4.30–6 p.m.	Continuation of working session II

Wednesday, 6 October 2021

10–11 a.m.	Working session III: Challenges and trends in the implementation of SALW and SCA assistance projects
11–11.30 a.m.	Coffee break
11.30 a.m.–1 p.m.	Continuation of working session III
1–3 p.m.	Lunch break

3–4 p.m.	Working session IV: Application of OSCE Best Practice Guides on SALW and Conventional Ammunition and other international standards to the assistance projects
4–4.30 p.m.	Coffee break
4.30–6 p.m.	Closing session

II. Organizational arrangements

Background

Ministerial Council Decision No. 10/17 (MC.DEC/10/17) on SALW and SCA tasked the FSC, *inter alia*, with continuing to strengthen efforts to fully implement the existing measures and commitments set out in the OSCE Document on SALW, the OSCE Document on SCA and related FSC decisions, with continuing to hold periodic meetings to review practical assistance projects on SALW and SCA, and with exploring ways to enhance outreach to the OSCE Partners for Co-operation on issues related to SALW and SCA. Accordingly, this meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss the implementation of OSCE assistance projects on SALW and SCA, and also serve as a forum for examining further ways of improving the effectiveness of such projects.

Furthermore, the Ministerial Declaration on OSCE Efforts in the Field of Norms and Best Practices on SALW and SCA (MC.DOC/5/18) acknowledged the need for the OSCE to continue to enhance its SALW- and SCA-related norms and best practices and their implementation, and underlined the participating States' resolve to jointly address the risks and threats associated with SALW and SCA by making full use of the OSCE norms and best practices. The Second Biennial Meeting to Assess the Implementation of the OSCE Documents on SALW and SCA was held on 13 and 14 October 2020.

Organization

The FSC Chairpersonship will chair the opening and closing sessions.

Each working session will have one designated moderator and one rapporteur throughout. The task of the moderators will be to facilitate and follow the discussion, while the immediate task of the rapporteurs will be to draft brief summary reports for use by the Chairperson of the closing session. After the meeting, the rapporteurs are expected to draft more comprehensive summary reports to be incorporated into the FSC Chairperson's report on the meeting. The rapporteurs will also assist the moderators in the preparation of their respective working sessions.

Each working session will be introduced by the moderator, after which several presentations will be given on specific aspects of the session's topic, either by the moderator or by the keynote speakers.

The OSCE Rules of Procedure and standard working methods will be followed, *mutatis mutandis*, at the meeting. For remote meetings, participants are strongly encouraged

to read the Procedural and Technical Guidelines for Remote Meetings (SEC.GAL/45/20) and the Addendum on Naming Conventions (SEC.GAL/45/20/Add.1/Rev.1).

Interpretation from and into all six working languages of the OSCE will be provided at all sessions. The FSC Chairperson will provide a report on the meeting not later than 6 December 2021, including a summary of suggestions and recommendations made during the meeting. The OSCE Secretariat will assist the FSC Chairperson in all matters concerning the organizational arrangements for the meeting.

Participation

The participating States are encouraged to ensure the participation of senior officials, including those from their capitals, in the meeting. The OSCE institutions will participate in the meeting. The Partners for Co-operation will also be invited to participate.

Other international and regional organizations that are involved in relevant SALW activities, such as the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the United Nations Development Programme, the European Union and the Wassenaar Arrangement, will also be invited by the FSC Chairperson.

General guidelines for participants

The advance circulation of briefings, overviews or statements is encouraged. To promote interactive discussion, delegations are requested to provide formal statements by 8 October 2021. Delegations are asked to limit the length of their oral statements to five minutes.

For remote meetings, all written statements are preferably to be submitted one day prior to the virtual meeting date to facilitate their interpretation under remote conditions. Speakers are requested to speak slowly. Delegations may also take the floor just to announce the circulation of their statements via Documents Distribution when there are time constraints or when they are experiencing technical difficulties.

Guidelines for moderators and keynote speakers

The moderators will chair the working sessions and should facilitate and streamline the dialogue among the participants. In particular, moderators should set the scene for the discussion, stimulate the debate by introducing items related to the subjects, suggesting potential recommendations related to the main points covered in order to broaden or refine the scope of the discussion.

Prior to the meeting, the moderators will prepare and circulate “point papers” listing the topics and questions designed to facilitate discussion in their working session by 28 September 2021.

To facilitate discussion within the time constraints of the meeting, the keynote speakers will be limited to 15–20 minutes.

The presentations of the keynote speakers should be in line with the “point papers”. The introductions and presentations are meant to be brief, so as to allow maximum time for discussion, and should therefore highlight only the most important elements of the point papers by way of providing information and setting the scene for the discussion.

Keynote speakers should submit their written contributions/presentations to the moderators no later than 5 October 2021.

Keynote speakers should remain present during the entire session they are addressing and should be ready to engage in the debate following their presentation.

The moderators may provide input for the FSC Chairperson’s subsequent report on the meeting.

For the sake of promoting interactive discussion, formal statements and interventions at the working sessions should be as concise as possible (not exceeding five minutes). The speakers should also contribute to the further deliberations of the meeting as it evolves and as time permits. The advance circulation of statements and interventions would make it easier for all the participants to engage in the discussion.

Guidelines for moderators and rapporteurs

The rapporteurs’ reports should address issues raised during the respective sessions. Rapporteurs should provide more comprehensive written summaries after the meeting. They should not include any personal views in their reports and summaries.