

**877th Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 883, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 1/18  
BEST PRACTICE GUIDE ON DEACTIVATION OF SMALL ARMS  
AND LIGHT WEAPONS**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming its commitment to the full implementation of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW), (FSC.DOC/1/00/Rev.1), in which participating States, *inter alia*, agreed to consider the development of best practice guides on certain aspects related to the control of small arms and light weapons,

Recalling Section VI of the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, in which participating States agreed “to work on the further development of the document in the light of its implementation,”

Recalling the outcomes of the Implementation Meeting on SALW Deactivation held on 30 March 2017, in Vienna,

Noting relevant work in establishing frameworks for control measures for small arms deactivation by other intergovernmental organizations, including United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and the European Union,

Noting the outcome document of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, which took place from 6 to 10 June 2016 in New York,

Recognizing the specific threat posed by the illicit conversion, transformation or reactivation of small arms and light weapons, in particular with regards to their use for terrorism and transnational organized crime,

Observing that many recent terrorist acts have been perpetrated with reactivated, converted or otherwise illegally modified small arms,

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1 Includes an updated distribution symbol for the best practice guide on deactivation of small arms and light weapons.

Determined, notably, to prevent, combat and eradicate the use of SALW and conventional ammunition for terrorism and transnational organized crime,

Determined to contribute to the prevention and reduction of the risks related to illicit reactivation, conversion or transformation of SALW,

Noting that a handbook gathering best practices on national controls over deactivated, small arms could serve as a guide for national policy-making by participating States and encourage voluntary higher common standards of practice among all participating States,

Acknowledging that such a handbook of best practices could also be useful to OSCE Partners for Co-operation and other United Nations Member States in their efforts to tackle the risks and challenges caused by reactivated, converted or otherwise illegally modified small arms,

Decides to:

1. Welcome the best practice guide on “Deactivation of Small Arms and Light Weapons” that presents an example of best practices aimed at ensuring that the deactivation of small arms and light weapons renders them permanently inoperable (FSC.DEL/250/17/Corr.2);
2. Endorse the publication of the best practice guide in all six OSCE languages and encourage participating States to make this guide available as appropriate;
3. Task the Conflict Prevention Centre to ensure the widest possible circulation, including to the OSCE Partners for Co-operation and the United Nations, of this best practice guide;
4. Request this best practice guide to be presented at the Third Review Conference of the Programme of Action of the UN, to be held in New York from 18 June to 29 June 2018;
5. Request this guide be appended to the Handbook of Best Practices on Small Arms and Light Weapons in order to be distributed with it.