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**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Forum for Security Co-operation**

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Andorran Chairmanship

**Report by the Chairman of the Forum for Security Co-operation
On OSCE/FSC works on Stockpile and export controls for MANPADS
Vienna, 11-12 March 2003**

Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear colleagues,

Before I start, let me express our sadness at the tragic loss of life due to the bombing in Madrid in the early hours of today. We share the feeling of shock and sorrow with our neighbors and would like to offer our condolences to the victim's families and the Spanish people. Unfortunately, these events add even more relevance to our discussions today and prove the need for increased joint efforts to combat and prevent terrorism.

Thank you for the opportunity to address the topic of MANPADS and Stockpile Security in this meeting. As Chair of the OSCE Forum for Security and Co-operation (FSC) I would like to tackle a few points regarding this issue.

As you might be aware the FSC adopted, in November 2000, the Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW). This Document is the leading tool in the OSCE's response to the excessive accumulation and uncontrolled spread of small arms, which have been of great concern to the international community, pose a threat to peace and security, and closely relate to high levels of violence and crime. This document also addresses MANPADS, as one part of the category of the light weapons. For the FSC, MANPADS can be addressed as part of the overall small arms framework.

However, in 2003 the FSC paid special attention to the MANPADS problem. In July, the FSC decided to promote the application of effective and comprehensive export control of MANPADS. In order to facilitate discussion in the FSC the Conflict Prevention Centre in the OSCE Secretariat was tasked to prepare a matrix of information the participating States provided in their annual information exchange on SALW about MANPADS. This task was completed and information provided to the OSCE participating States in October. Furthermore, in December 2003 the Ministerial Council endorsed the FSC decision 7/03 on MANPADS. This Decision highlights the importance of effective and comprehensive export controls on MANPADS and calls upon participating States to use existing mechanisms under the OSCE SALW Document to destroy excess MANPADS. In addition, the OSCE Strategy to Address Threats to Security and Stability in the Twenty-First Century insisted that the OSCE should use all its tools to address proliferation of MANPADS. The Strategy document also encouraged states to ensure the security and integrity of national stockpiles to guard against theft or illicit transfer.

In this sense, it is essential to mention the effort of the OSCE FSC to co-operate with other international organizations, which share responsibilities on this matter. For instance, I would like to point out the presence of Ambassador Sune Danielsson, Head of the Wassenaar Secretariat, as a speaker to our Forum, on the 28th of January this year, and the discussions that derived from there, which we expect might lead to the adoption of a new document based on the elements to control the exports of MANPADS, approved last December, in the framework of the Wassenaar Arrangement.

Regarding the other part of the topic today, stockpile security, different measures have been undertaken by the participating States in the past. The information exchange regime, set out in the OSCE SALW Document, covers, among others, national procedures for the control over the national stockpiles management and security procedures. The one-time exchange, which was conducted on 30 June 2001, provided a wealth of information on policy and practice related to stockpile security and SALW control. The Overview of this information prepared by the CPC provided participating States with the tools to analyse the submissions and draw conclusions for the implementation of the OSCE SALW Document. It helped to

identify trends and patterns of implementation apparent in participating States responses.

You might also be aware, that in 2003 the FSC oversaw completion of a work regarding the Handbook of Best Practice Guides on eight different areas related to the control of SALW. Contributions by a number of delegations and the CPC were crucial to completing this effort. The aim of the Handbook is to provide guidelines to national governments, as they would improve the implementation of the commitments related to the Document on SALW. One chapter of the Handbook deals with National Procedures for Stockpile Management and Security. In this chapter the different aspects of stockpile security are addressed, for example stockpile locations, physical security, access control measures, inventory management, emergency situations and security training for personnel. The Handbook is not a politically binding document but a recommendation how national governments could reach the common standards to the fullest possible extent. This year one of the goals of the OSCE is to help to introduce the content of the Handbook in the OSCE region as widely as possible.

With the approval of the Document on SALW and development of the Handbook of Best Practice Guides a good set of standards has been introduced. It has also been realized, that some states cannot cope with this problem alone. In order to make the SALW Document's provisions operational, OSCE participating States have recently developed and adopted supplementary measures. A framework has been established whereby a State, perhaps in conjunction with an OSCE field mission, can request OSCE assistance helping the government to meet certain needs it has identified especially related to the surplus of SALW. Hence, a procedure has been established where a request and assistance can meet.

In December 2003, the Maastricht Ministerial endorsed the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition. The document enlarges the FSC acquis and allows Participating States to request international assistance to either destroy or better manage these stockpiles.

As I mentioned earlier, in the FSC, MANPADS have been dealt with in the framework of the SALW Document, although efforts to promote the application of stricter

controls on MANPADS have been recently emphasized. Furthermore, the measures regarding stockpile security are applicable to all categories of SALW, not only to MANPADS. Further work in the FSC will concentrate on the provisions of the Strategy document, namely the export control of MANPADS and secondly, the destruction of excess MANPADS. Naturally, promoting the implementation of the Document on SALW and the OSCE Document on Stockpiles of Conventional Ammunition are constantly areas of priority importance of the FSC.

Last but not least, let me point out that the FSC works in close cooperation with the OSCE Chairman in office in common areas to achieve the abovementioned goals.

Thank you for your attention.