

**553rd Plenary Meeting**

FSC Journal No. 559, Agenda item 3

**DECISION No. 8/08  
UPDATING THE REPORTING CATEGORIES OF WEAPON AND  
EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS SUBJECT TO THE INFORMATION  
EXCHANGE ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS**

The Forum for Security Co-operation (FSC),

Reaffirming the OSCE participating States' commitment to exchange data on conventional arms and equipment transfers within the agreed deadline,

Taking into account the technical adjustments to certain equipment categories covered by the UN Register of Conventional Arms, and the invitation to provide additional background information on transfers of small arms and light weapons (SALW) as stipulated in the 2006 UN General Assembly resolution "Transparency in Armaments" (A/RES/61/77),

Recognizing the advantages to be gained from creating and maintaining synergies between different information exchange mechanisms to increase effectiveness and avoid duplication,

Decides:

1. To change paragraph 1 of its Decision No. 13/97 (FSC.DEC/13/97) of 16 July 1997 amended by FSC Decision No. 8/98 of 4 November 1998, by establishing that from the beginning of 2008 the participating States will exchange information within the FSC, on an annual basis and not later than 30 June, on their transfers of weapon and equipment systems for the previous calendar year in the updated categories and formats set out in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;
2. To replace in the Annex to Decision No. 13/97 the list of "Categories of weapon and equipment system subject to information exchange on conventional arms transfers" with the updated one, as annexed;
3. To task the Conflict Prevention Centre to follow any further amendments to the categories and formats set out in the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and to inform OSCE participating States of necessary changes to the list of "Categories of weapon and equipment system subject to information exchange on conventional arms transfers" for their approval;

4. That participating States will, if they are in a position to do so, forward information they exchange on SALW exports to and imports from other participating States as additional background information on transfers of SALW as an attachment to their reports to the UN Register of Conventional Arms, and on the basis of the optional standardized reporting form, as adopted by the 2006 group of UN governmental experts, or by any other methods they deem appropriate.

## **CATEGORIES OF WEAPON AND EQUIPMENT SYSTEMS SUBJECT TO INFORMATION EXCHANGE ON CONVENTIONAL ARMS TRANSFERS**

### **1. Battle Tanks**

Tracked or wheeled self-propelled armoured fighting vehicles with high cross-country mobility and a high-level of self-protection, weighing at least 16.5 metric tonnes unladen weight, with a high muzzle velocity direct fire main gun of at least 75 millimetres calibre.

### **2. Armoured Combat Vehicles**

Tracked, semi-tracked or wheeled self-propelled vehicles, with armoured protection and cross-country capability, either: (a) designed and equipped to transport a squad of four or more infantrymen, or (b) armed with an integral or organic weapon of at least 12.5 millimetres calibre or a missile launcher.

### **3. Large-Calibre Artillery Systems**

Guns, howitzers, artillery pieces, combining the characteristics of a gun or a howitzer, mortars or multiple-launch rocket systems, capable of engaging surface targets by delivering primarily indirect fire, with a calibre of 75 millimetres and above.

### **4. Combat Aircraft**

Fixed-wing or variable-geometry wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided missiles, unguided rockets, bombs, guns, cannons or other weapons of destruction, including versions of these aircraft which perform specialized electronic warfare, suppression of air defence or reconnaissance missions. The term "combat aircraft" does not include primary trainer aircraft, unless designed, equipped or modified as described above.

### **5. Attack Helicopters**

Rotary-wing aircraft designed, equipped or modified to engage targets by employing guided or unguided anti-armour, air-to-surface, air-to-subsurface, or air-to-air weapons and equipped with an integrated fire control and aiming system for these weapons, including versions of these aircraft which perform specialized reconnaissance or electronic warfare missions.

### **6. Warships**

Vessels or submarines armed and equipped for military use with a standard displacement of 500 metric tonnes or above, and those with a standard displacement of less

than 500 metric tonnes, equipped for launching missiles with a range of at least 25 kilometres or torpedoes with similar range.

**7. Missiles and Missile Launchers**

- (a) Guided or unguided rockets, ballistic or cruise missiles capable of delivering a warhead or weapon of destruction to a range of at least 25 kilometres, and means designed or modified specifically for launching such missiles or rockets, if not covered by categories 1 through 6. For the purpose of this information exchange, this subcategory includes remotely-piloted vehicles with the characteristics for missiles as defined above, but does not include ground-to-air missiles.
- (b) Man-portable air-defence systems (MANPADS).