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**LIMITE**

**CORLX 518**  
**CFSP/PESC 767**  
**COARM 88**

**LEGISLATIVE ACTS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS**

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Subject: COUNCIL DECISION in support of a project on digital solutions for secure conventional ammunition stockpiles in the EU Neighbourhood (AIMS/SIMS)

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**COUNCIL DECISION (CFSP) 2026/.../**

**of ...**

**in support of a project on digital solutions  
for secure conventional ammunition stockpiles in the EU Neighbourhood  
(AIMS/SIMS)**

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Articles 28(1) and 31(1) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal from the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

- (1) In 2001, the United Nations (UN) Member States adopted the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (the ‘UN PoA’). In the UN PoA, the UN Member States agreed to improve national small arms regulations, strengthen stockpile management, ensure that weapons are properly and reliably marked, improve cooperation in weapons tracing and engage in regional and international cooperation and assistance.
- (2) On 19 November 2018, the Council adopted an EU strategy against illicit firearms, small arms and light weapons and their ammunition entitled ‘Securing arms, protecting citizens’, which recognised that poor stockpile security is a key factor allowing arms and ammunition to be diverted from the licit to the illicit markets. The Union and its Member States committed to continue helping other countries to improve the management and security of state-held stockpiles by strengthening national legislative and administrative frameworks and institutions that regulate the legitimate supply and stockpile management of small arms and light weapons (‘SALW’) and ammunition for defence and security forces, with a particular focus on marking and record-keeping, and to promoting and implementing standards and good practices for the handling of small arms and ammunition. The Union also committed to promoting the application of new technologies for more effective SALW stockpile management and to continue supporting cooperation and assistance for the implementation of the UN PoA, including physical security and stockpile management for SALW and ammunition.

- (3) On 4 December 2023, the UN General Assembly adopted the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management (the ‘Global Framework’), which is a voluntary cooperative framework and contains a set of political commitments for strengthening and promoting existing initiatives on, and addressing existing gaps in, through-life conventional ammunition management. In its Objective 5, the Global Framework encourages states to establish the technical capabilities to perform adequate, systematic and sustainable surveillance of conventional ammunition in national stockpiles, as appropriate and consistent with national law, including through the provision and receipt of international cooperation and assistance.
- (4) Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP<sup>1</sup> provides that an export license is to be denied if approval would be inconsistent with the international obligations and commitments of Member States, including their commitments under the Global Framework.
- (5) On 14 April 2025, the Council approved Conclusions on Arms Export Control, in which it committed to taking work forward on elements supporting responsible trade in military technology and equipment, and tasked the Working Party on Conventional arms exports (COARM) where relevant to support capacity building of third countries with respect to the management of arms and ammunition stockpiles.

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<sup>1</sup> Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP of 8 December 2008 defining common rules governing control of exports of military technology and equipment (OJ L 335, 13.12.2008, p. 99, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/compos/2008/944/oj>).

- (6) The Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD) is developing the ammunition inventory management system ('AIMS'), a digital tool designed to support safe, secure and sustainable ammunition stockpile management. AIMS is designed to work in synergy with the surveillance information management system ('SIMS'). AIMS and SIMS will be piloted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Republic of Moldova expressed strong interest in both tools.
- (7) It is in the security interest of the Union to support Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Moldova in their alignment with modern non-proliferation and safety standards. In that context, it is appropriate for the Union to support, through a financial contribution, the project entitled 'Digital Solutions for Secure Conventional Ammunition Stockpiles in the EU Neighbourhood', which consists of the development, adoption, integration and sustained use of AIMS and SIMS in those countries. Switzerland has committed to co-finance that project by providing a financial contribution that will be in addition to the Union contribution, with a view to reaching the total estimated budget of the project,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

### *Article 1*

1. With a view to implementing the EU strategy against illicit firearms, small arms and light weapons and their ammunition entitled ‘Securing arms, protecting citizens’ and Council Common Position 2008/944/CFSP, the Union shall support the project entitled ‘Digital Solutions for Secure Conventional Ammunition Stockpiles in the EU Neighbourhood’, which consists of the development, adoption, integration and sustained use of the Ammunition Inventory Management System (AIMS) and the Surveillance Information Management System (SIMS) in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Moldova (the ‘Project’).
2. The objective of the Project shall be to enhance organisational capabilities of the national authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Moldova for the through-life management of conventional ammunition, in order to mitigate the risk of diversion and accidental explosions.
3. A detailed description of the Project is set out in the Annex to this Decision.

### *Article 2*

1. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy (the ‘High Representative’) shall be responsible for the implementation of this Decision.
2. The technical implementation of the Project shall be carried out by the Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining (GICHD).

3. GICHD shall perform its tasks under the responsibility of the High Representative. For that purpose, the High Representative shall conclude the necessary arrangements with GICHD.

### *Article 3*

1. The financial reference amount for the implementation of the Project financed by the Union shall be EUR 1 000 000. The total estimated budget of the Project shall be EUR 1 389 145.
2. Expenditure financed by the financial reference amount referred to in paragraph 1 shall be managed in accordance with the procedures and rules applicable to the general budget of the Union.
3. The Commission shall supervise the proper management of the expenditure referred to in paragraph 2. For that purpose, it shall conclude an agreement with GICHD. That agreement shall stipulate that GICHD is to ensure the visibility of the Union contribution in a manner commensurate to the size of that contribution.
4. The Commission shall endeavour to conclude the agreement referred to in paragraph 3 as soon as possible after the entry into force of this Decision. It shall inform the Council of any difficulties associated with the conclusion of that agreement and of the date of conclusion of the agreement.

*Article 4*

1. The High Representative shall report to the Council on the implementation of this Decision on the basis of six-monthly reports prepared by GICHD.
2. The Commission shall report to the Council on the financial aspects of the Project.

*Article 5*

1. This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.
2. This Decision shall expire 36 months after the date of conclusion of the agreement referred to in Article 3(3) or, if no such agreement has been concluded within six months of the date of the entry into force of this Decision, six months after the date of the entry into force of this Decision.

Done at ..., ...

*For the Council*

*The President*

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