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General Secretariat

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**LIMITE**

**COARM  
CFSP/PESC**

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## **WORKING DOCUMENT**

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports
Subject:	COARM VI: semestral report by BAFA

Delegations will find attached the second six-monthly report by BAFA from the implementation of Council Decision 2023/2539/CFSP of 13 November 2023 to support Union activities in order to promote, among third countries, the control of arms exports and the principles and criteria of Common Position 2008/944/ CFSP (COARM Outreach Project, phase VI).

The report provides an overview of the activities planned and implemented during the period of 1 June - 30 November 2024.



08 January 2025

## 2<sup>nd</sup> SIX-MONTHLY REPORT

On the implementation of

**COUNCIL DECISION 2023/2539/CFSP of 13 November 2023 to support Union activities in order to promote, among third countries, the control of arms exports and the principles and criteria of Common Position 2008/944/CFSP**

**CONTRACT NO. CFSP/2023/08 COARM VI**

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The present report provides an overview of the activities planned and implemented during the period of 1 June – 30 November 2024.

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### NOT BUDGET-RELATED ACTIONS

- N/A

### BUDGET HEADING 1. (Cross-) Regional workshops

#### 1. Operational Activities

- Organisation and implementation of a **Regional Workshop for the MENA Region**, 27 – 29 August 2024, in Aqaba, Jordan.
- Organisation and implementation of a **Cross-Regional Workshop for the Caucasus and Central Asia**, 06 – 07 November 2024, in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.

#### 2. Achievements

- On 27 – 29 August 2024, a **Regional Workshop for the MENA Region** was organized in Aqaba, Jordan. The two-and-a-half day event focused on the risk of diversion, i.e. EU Common Position criterion no.7, with presentations on end-user verification and controls, the role of customs in arms export control enforcement, and a field visit to Aqaba Airport. In the spirit of donor coordination, one representative from the EU League of Arab States Small Arms Project presented on the importance of stockpile management and marking and tracing to prevent diversion. 31 participants from the competent authorities from Algeria, Jordan, Morocco, Tunisia and Lebanon (online) attended the event. Two EU experts from Italy and Spain shared their expertise.
- On 6 – 7 November 2024, a **Cross-Regional Workshop for Caucasus and Central Asia** was organized in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia. The two-day event focused on the latest developments and current debates on arms export controls in the EU, end-user verification and end-use documentation, post-shipment controls and interagency cooperation. It also offered a platform for the exchange of best practice experiences in the regions. 22 participants from the competent authorities from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and

Mongolia attended the event. Two experts from the Czech Republic and Bosnia and Herzegovina shared their expertise.

### 3. Work plan for the next reporting period

N/A

## **BUDGET HEADING 2. Multilateral Knowledge Exchange Activities**

### 1. Operational Activities

- Planning and implementation of a **study visit for Montenegro and Morocco to Estonia**, held 26 – 27 September 2024 in Tallinn, Estonia.
- Planning and implementation of a **binational workshop on transfer of technology for Kosovo\* and North Macedonia** (back-to-back with EU P2P 103 workshop), held on 11 – 12 November 2024 in Pristina, Kosovo\*.

### 2. Achievements

- A **study visit for Montenegro and Morocco** was organised in Tallinn, Estonia. The event took place from 26 – 27 September 2024. The event addressed the topic of the control of transit and transshipment of arms and the importance of interagency cooperation, especially between the licensing authority and customs. The event also included an on-site visit to Muuga Port. Seven persons from relevant authorities in Montenegro and Morocco attended the event. Experts from Estonia provided expertise for this workshop.
- A **binational workshop for North Macedonia and Kosovo\*** was organised in Pristina, Kosovo\*. The event took place from 11 – 12 November 2024, back-to-back with an EU P2P P103 workshop, covering the same issues on the dual-use side. The event addressed the topic of transfer of technology; mainly the legal background of its control, the role of the private sector and outreach to industry. The event was attended by 20 persons from relevant authorities in North Macedonia and Kosovo\*. This outreach activity was supported by four EU experts from Romania, Germany, Hungary, Slovenia and the Netherlands.

### 3. Work plan for the next reporting period

N/A

## **BUDGET HEADING 3. Individual assistance**

### 1. Operational Activities

- Organisation and Implementation of an **Online Individual Assistance Activity for Mongolia**, held on 14 June 2024, online.
- Organisation and implementation of an **Individual Assistance Workshop for Kyrgyzstan** from 18 – 20 June 2024 in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan.
- Organisation and Implementation of an **Online Individual Assistance Workshops for Ukraine**, held on 07 July and 12 September 2024, online.
- Organisation and implementation of an **Individual Assistance Workshop for Ukraine**, held on 6 – 7 November 2024, in Warsaw, Poland.

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\* This designation is without prejudice to position on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244(1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

- Organisation and implementation of an **Individual Assistance Workshop for Kosovo\***, held on 13 November 2024, in Pristina, Kosovo\*.
- Planning and preparation of an **Individual Assistance Workshop for Ukraine**, to be held in January 2025, online.

## 2. Achievements

- An **Online Individual Assistance Activity for Mongolia** was organised online on 14 June 2024. The event was designed as a follow-up to the translation of the EU Common Military List (CML) into Mongolian in the framework of the Remote Assistance for Mongolia which was completed in May 2024. The event was attended by 18 representatives from Mongolia. One EU expert from Romania supported the workshop and introduced the participants to the structure and content of the EU CML.
- An **Individual Assistance Workshop for Kyrgyzstan** was organised in Issyk-Kul, Kyrgyzstan from 18 – 20 June 2024. This activity took place in cooperation with the OSCE Programme Office in Bishkek (OSCE POiB) and the EU P2P P105 project. 21 Kyrgyz participants from different authorities attended the event. Two EU Experts from Germany and Romania supported the event. Discussions focused on the ATT, control lists and their associated technical assessments, the role of customs in inter-agency cooperation and in commodity identification.
- **Online Individual Assistance Workshops for Ukraine were conducted** on 07 July and 12 September to follow up on the remote assistance carried out in March and April of the same year and the in-person workshop in Warsaw in May, all of which contributed to the Review of the Draft Law on Strategic Trade Control organized in cooperation with the EU P2P Export Control Programme and the United States EXBS. Experts from Hungary and Germany supported the events.
- An **Individual Assistance Workshop for Ukraine** was organised in Warsaw, Poland, on 6 – 7 November. The event was designed as a follow-up to the remote legal analysis of the country's arms export control legislation and the following legal workshop in February 2024. The event was attended by eight representatives of relevant authorities from Ukraine. Three EU experts from Hungary, Romania and the Czech Republic supported the event, which addressed the issues spanning the entire licensing cycle: pre-licensing, licensing and post-licensing.
- An **Individual Assistance Workshop for Kosovo\*** was organised in Pristina, Kosovo\*, on 13 November. The event was designed as a follow-up to the remote legal analysis of the country's arms export control legislation and the following legal workshop in February 2024. The event was attended by six representatives of relevant authorities from Kosovo\*, involved in the legal review process. One EU expert from Romania assisted in analysing the new draft legislation.

## 3. Work plan for the next reporting period

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Implementation of an Individual Assistance Workshop for Ukraine in January 2025, online.	<p>Building on the achievements reached through the implementation of Council Decisions 2020/1464/CFSP, 2018/101/CFSP, 2015/2309/CFSP, 2009/1012/CFSP and 2012/711/CFSP, and the Joint Action:</p> <p>Promoting effective controls on arms exports by third countries, in accordance with the principles set out in Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and in the ATT, and seeking, where appropriate, complementarity and synergies with Union assistance projects in the field of export controls on dual-use goods</p> <p>Supporting third countries' efforts at national and regional levels to render trade in conventional weapons more responsible and transparency, and to mitigate the</p>	<p>Activity report drafted by the implementing entity</p> <p>Evaluation forms filled out by the participants to the event</p> <p>Feedback from the EU experts present at the event</p>

\* This designation is without prejudice to position on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244(1999) and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo Declaration of Independence.

**BUDGET HEADING 4. Remote assistance****1. Operational Activities**

N/A

**2. Achievements**

N/A

**3. Work plan for the next reporting period**

N/A

**BUDGET HEADING 5. Institutional Capacity-Building Activities****1. Operational Activities**

- Organisation and implementation of an **Institutional Capacity Building Activity for Serbia** held on 11 September 2024 in Belgrade, Serbia.
- Organisation and implementation of an **Advanced Capacity Building Peer-to-Peer Activity for Mongolia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan**, held on 24 – 26 September 2024 in Tirana, Albania.
- Organisation and implementation of an **Advanced Capacity Building Peer-to-Peer Activity for Mongolia and Tajikistan**, held on 4 – 5 December 2024 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina.

**2. Achievements**

- An **Institutional Capacity Building Activity for Serbia** was held on 11 September 2024 in Belgrade, Serbia, by supporting a self-organized outreach to industry event of Serbia. The outreach event for the Serbian industry for arms and military equipment was attended by around 130 participants and focused on the dissemination of information and best practices among the Serbian national industry. Besides the Serbian experts, the event was supported by one EU expert from Germany.
- An **Advanced Capacity Building Peer-to-Peer Activity for Mongolia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan** was held on 24 – 26 September 2024 in Tirana, Albania. The event was attended by eight participants from Mongolia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. It was designed in the context of the train-the-trainer (TTT) program of BAFA in which Albania and Bosnia and Herzegovina previously participated. The event allowed the hosting country Albania to apply the lessons learned in the TTT context to design the substance of the event, in close cooperation with their "Peer" Country Bosnia and Herzegovina. The event focused on the basic components of an export control system, such as the legal basis and interagency cooperation and was designed to share such experiences and lessons with a core audience from Mongolia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan.
- An **Advanced Capacity Building Peer-to-Peer Activity for Mongolia and Tajikistan** was held on 4 – 5 December 2024 in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina. It, too, was designed in the context of the train-the-trainer (TTT) program of BAFA in which Bosnia and Herzegovina and Albania previously participated. The event allowed the hosting country Bosnia and Herzegovina to apply the lessons learned in the TTT context to design the substance of the event, in close cooperation with their "Peer" Country Albania. The event was attended by same four participants from Mongolia and Tajikistan (Turkmens could not participate) and build on the visit to Albania three months prior. The workshop in Sarajevo complemented the content of the activity in Albania by focusing on secondary legislation and how to design it, interagency cooperation between licensing and customs agencies, transit and transshipment controls, and the role of customs in arms export controls.

### 3. Work plan for the next reporting period

N/A

### **BUDGET HEADING 6. Final Assessment Event**

#### 1. Operational Activities

- Planning for the **Final Assessment Event** to be held online on 16 December 2024.

#### 2. Achievements

N/A

### 3. Work plan for the next reporting period

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	OBJECTIVES	INDICATORS
Implementation of the Final Assessment Event to be held online on 16 December 2024.	<p>Building on the achievements reached through the implementation of Council Decisions 2020/1464/CFSP, 2018/101/CFSP, 2015/2309/CSFP, 2009/1012/CFSP and 2012/711/CFSP, and the Joint Action:</p> <p>Promoting effective controls on arms exports by third countries, in accordance with the principles set out in Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and in the ATT, and seeking, where appropriate, complementarity and synergies with Union assistance projects in the field of export controls on dual-use goods</p> <p>Supporting third countries' efforts at national and regional levels to render trade in conventional weapons more responsible and transparency, and to mitigate the risk of the diversion of arms to unauthorised users</p>	<p>Activity report drafted by the implementing entity</p> <p>Feedback from the EU experts and EU MS representatives present at the event</p> <p>Feedback from the representatives of the partner countries present at the event.</p>

### **BUDGET HEADING 7. Visibility**

#### 1. Operational Activities

- Visibility material, such as presentations about the project including the logo, and welcome remarks introducing the project were prepared for each activity conducted during the reporting period.
- Presentations and other documents from an activity were saved onto the USB keys displaying the project logo and distributed to each participant at the end of the activity. Name badges were also purchased for use during activities.
- The project Factsheet was updated and translated into Arabic.

#### 2. Achievements

- Reference to the EU COARM OP V project was made in all correspondence with the partner countries and all project related documents.

## **BUDGET HEADING 8. Management and Coordination**

### **1. Operational Activities**

- **Reporting trip to COARM Working Group** in Brussels on 19 September 2024.
- Human resources for project implementation: engaging in cooperation with the partner countries, organisation of events, procurement of goods and services, communication with various stakeholders, etc.

### **2. Achievements**

- On 19 September 2024, BAFA undertook a trip to Brussels to report to the COARM Working Group the plans for the next phase of the COARM outreach programme. Besides sharing the concept for the seventh project phase, achievements and developments of the current phase were also presented.