

**INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR  
FOR COUNTRIES OF SEE  
"EXPORT CONTROL OF DUAL-USE ITEMS AND ARMS: INDUSTRY OUTREACH",  
SOFIA, 22-23 MAY 2006**

**INTERVENTION BY MR. NENAD KOLEV, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

**Mr. Moderator,**

At the outset let me thank our organizers for the hospitality we are enjoying here and for having sponsored the participation of three representatives from the Republic of Macedonia to this important meeting. Our gratitude goes to the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria and Hungary and AG as well as the Centre for the Study of Democracy for providing us with the opportunity to have this interesting debate on concerted actions undertaken to address growing proliferation threats and help our countries meet the high standards of international export control regimes. Promoting responsible export control and arms transfers is in everybody's interest and strengthens global and especially regional security.

Before I go any further, **Mr. Moderator**, and turn to my colleagues from the Ministry of Economy and Customs Administration for more detailed presentations, let me set the overall political scene regarding the sensitive trade in arms and dual-use items in my country. In that context allow me to outline several points which I deem of interest for the participants:

- As of September 2005 Macedonia has had the Law on Export Control of Dual-Use Items and Technology, which started to be implemented in January 2006. The law should be viewed in the context of the approximation of national legislation to the EU legislation and CFSP. In a way, it is Macedonia's contribution to the non-proliferation of WMD and fight against terrorism. Dual-use items and technologies are subject to control in order to protect the security, economic and foreign political interests of Macedonia while strengthening international peace and fulfilling the country's obligations stemming from international treaties. So far no applications have been received by companies and consequently no licences have been issued under the new law;

- On 1 November 2004 the Government adopted the Decision on Unilateral Acceptance of the EU CoC on Arms Exports and in 2005 the Decision on the EU Common Position on Control of Arms Brokering;

- Macedonia is a state-party to all relevant international legal documents regulating WMD and non-proliferation, such as CTBT, CWC, BTWC, NPT, SALW-related, to mention but a few;

- Macedonia concluded with the IAEA a Safeguards Agreement (2000), AP (2005) and SQP (2000);

- In 2003 the Government made a Declaration to unilaterally adhere to the Guidelines for sensitive missile-relevant transfers of MCTR and its Annex. The Government decided to place equipment and technology subject to MTCR under a special licence system;

- In 2003 the MFA expressed political support to the US PSI. The Ministry called upon responsible national authorities to conduct evaluation of existing national framework and capacities and to identify potential shortcomings for the implementation of the Interdiction Principles of the Initiative;

- As of 2002 Macedonia has been a state-signatory to the Hague CoC on Ballistic Missile Proliferation.

- Macedonia is interested in establishing closer cooperation with the AG, WA and NSG.

**Mr. Moderator,**

Let me now briefly touch upon several more issues which have featured prominently in the presentations of various speakers and in bilateral contacts in the margins of this meeting:

- In order to further improve the legal basis and enhance legal mechanisms for implementation of internationally accepted obligations of sanctions, including arms embargoes, in 2005 the MFA initiated a procedure for drafting a Law on Restrictive Measures. The first draft has already been produced and passed the EU TAIEX expertise. We expect it to be enacted by the end of this year;

- The (first) Arms Export Report is currently being produced. The MoD and Mol have done their parts, now it is up to the MFA to finalise it. We plan to submit it by the end of the Austrian EU Presidency;

- As for the EU Common Military List a process has been put in motion to integrate it into national legislation in its entirety, without any changes;

- With regard to industry outreach in January 2005 the Ministry of Economy and Customs Administration organized a meeting for companies through the Chamber of Commerce in order to present the new law and accompanying lists and establish closer cooperation. In addition, last week in Skopje we had a seminar on dual-use, organized by the USA, in which representatives of several major Macedonian companies and experts from Universities were present and actively contributed to the debate.

- As for transparency the Ministry of Economy put the English and Macedonian versions of the Law on its web ([www.economy.gov.mk](http://www.economy.gov.mk)) as well as the necessary forms when filing an applications, which were designed in accordance with EU regulations.

And now **Mr. Moderator**, with your permission, I would like to give the floor to my colleagues. I will be more than happy to entertain any questions you or other participants may have. Thank you.