

Material for the sixth International Export Control Conference
8-10 November 2004 London ,England

The Albanian Government remains constantly committed to further contribute as an active member of the international coalition against terrorism. We have signed and ratified, and are now implementing the 12 United Nations Conventions and Protocols against terrorism. We have extended the implementation of the relevant resolutions of the UN Security Council, cooperating closely with respective structures and submitting regular reports to them.

The Albanian Government welcomed the decision of the Security Council to play an active role in the fight against threats coming from possession and trafficking of weapons of mass destruction. The Government of the Republic of Albania hails the unanimous adoption of Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) on 28 April 2004.

The Republic of Albania does not produce, stockpile or transfer biological or nuclear weapons. Albania has declared its chemical weapons stockpile in 2003 and now is ready to start the implementation of National Chemical Weapons Destruction Program. We hope to destroy all the stockpile of chemical weapons before the deadline(year 2007) set up on CWC.

The Republic of Albania is a party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), as well as the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC).

Albania has also taken all measures for the implementation of the Code of Conduct on Safety and Security of Radioactive Sources of the IAEA. Albania has already taken the decision to adhere and will soon sign the Additional Protocol to the Safeguards Agreement of the IAEA, while joining also the Proliferation Security Initiative(PSI).

Recently, the Government of the Republic of Albania has approved in general the decision no. 604 of 28 August 2003 and no. 248 of 30 April 2004, respectively for the approval of the EU Code of Conduct and the membership to Wassenaar Arrangement.

The Albanian General Customs Directorate has the responsibility to prevent the import and export of unlicensed goods, investigating offences, and taking appropriate actions, including prosecution of offenders.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is responsible for inter-ministerial coordination for actions in order to put into effect the counter-proliferation strategies and initiatives.

Export-import of military goods

The Ministry of Defense controls the export-import of military goods and technology through MEICO (Military Export Import Company), in compliance with the respective decisions of the Albanian Government. Only MEICO has the authority to negotiate with foreign contractors. There is no other authority for running these procedures in the territory of Albania. "MEICO" is a public enterprise under the Albanian Ministry of Defense. It was established in 1991, by the Order of Council of Ministers No. 366 of 05.10.1991 "For the creation of Import- Export Enterprise under the Ministry of Defense".

There is no private enterprise on arms import-export or brokering in Albania.

Export- import rules for items of military character in Republic of Albania

The conditions that a foreign trade subject should meet to import or export armaments, ammunition and materials of military character from and in the Republic of Albania through MEICO are as follows:

- a. Must be a registered trade subject in a country that is not under the embargo of UNO, where it is prohibited the import- export of armaments, ammunitions and other items, in compliance with the respective international instruments where the Republic of Albania is a party.
- b. Must hold a valid license for the import of armaments, ammunition and other items issued by authorities of its country.
- c. Must present the End User licence, a document issued by authority of its country, guaranteeing that this item will reach that country and will not be reexported or transited.

Export- import of radioactive materials

The exports system of radioactive materials up to 1995 was regulated by the Ministry of Health. In 1995 was established the Radiation Protection Commission functioning as the Albanian Regulatory Authority, which was responsible for controlling Exports of radioactive materials. Due to the fact that Albania didn't produce Radioactive materials this procedure was not very strict and there was not enough attention.

Up to 2000 the activity of the Albanian Regulatory Authority was focused in strengthening the system of Exports of the country. In that framework on 24/02/2000 was enacted the decision of Councils of Ministers, which regulates in principle the export of Radioactive materials from Albania. It was foreseen that the exporters must have 2 documents for export; the license and permission.

The license had to be granted to the company, which completes the request for export from Radiation Protection Commission and permission was given by the

Radiation Protection Office to number the exports from the Country. Up to beginning of 2004 this procedure was in place to control exports of RM.

Actually we are working and we have prepared the draft regulation for controlling the import-export of radioactive materials in the country. This draft-regulation provides that Albania has to establish export authorization Procedures that include appropriate enforcement measures.

The transfer of RM has to take place only with prior Notification from Albania, as appropriate, consent by importing state in accordance with their respective laws and regulations.

In case of export Albania should provide to the importing state the following information:

- Name of recipient
- Recipient location and its address
- Radionuclides and radioactivity
- Suggested time frame for decision on the request
- Estimated date of export
- Exporting facility
- Aggregate activity level
- The notification should be made at last 7 days prior to shipment.

RPC can authorize the import of radioactive sources (based on the list Code of CONDUCT for Category 1 and 2) only if the recipient is licensed to receive and posses the source under its law and has the administrative and technical capacity to manage the source.

RPC can authorize the export of radioactive sources only if the receiving state is licensed to receive and posses the source under its law and has the administrative and technical capacity to manage the source. Albania can authorize an import or export in case that above conditioned are not satisfied, only in exceptional circumstances with the consent of importing state if an alternative arrangement has been made to ensure the source will be managed in safe manner.

RPC allow for re-entry in Albania of disused sources, if it has accepted during the export to return it to producer.

RPC authorize an import-export only when the transfer is made in compliance with international safe transport regulation. Authorization of transit and transshipments will be in compliance with international agreements and regulations.

This regulation will be enacted as decision of Council of ministers and will be applied through General Directorate of Customs. The new procedures of Import-export will serve for the safety and security of Radioactive material in Albania.