



Government of Montenegro
Ministry of Defence



Organization for Security and
Co-operation in Europe
Mission to Montenegro

MEDIA ADVISORY

Opening of the reconstructed “Taraš” ammunition storage site in Danilovgrad

What: In the framework of the MONDEM Programme, representatives of the Ministry of Defence of Montenegro, the OSCE Mission to Montenegro and the UNDP Montenegro will officially open the reconstructed “Taraš” ammunition storage site in Danilovgrad, Montenegro. The reconstruction of “Taraš” is a part of the Stockpile Management component of MONDEM, and the aim of the €1.23 million infrastructure upgrade of this ammunition depot was to bring it in line with internationally accepted security standards. The project has been financed by the Government of the Netherlands (€700,000), the Government of Montenegro (€200,000), the European Union (€200,000 – through the SEESAC) and the OSCE (€130,000).

Speakers at the official opening will be:

Boro Vučinić, Minister of Defence, Government of Montenegro

Ambassador Sarunas Adomavicius, Head of Mission, OSCE Mission to Montenegro

Alexander Avanesov, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative to Montenegro

When: Friday, May 20th 2011, at noon

Where: Taraš, Danilovgrad

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The ammunition storage site “Taraš” has been reconstructed in the framework of the joint capacity development programme of the Government of Montenegro, UNDP and OSCE for SALW (Conventional Ammunition) Demilitarization and Safe Storage for Montenegro, also known as the MONDEM programme. The project design for the upgrade of another ammunition depot (Brezovik) is being prepared, and currently the focus is on mobilization of the resources for its implementation.

The achievements of the MONDEM programme, which include the reconstruction of the ammunition storage site “Taraš”, contribute to a safer and more secure Montenegro. Two out of four components of the MONDEM programme have been successfully completed. Firstly, the Destruction and Recycling of Heavy Weapon Systems component, where 60 T-55 tanks and 100 field artillery pieces were dismantled and melted for scrap, conveyed a powerful message that Montenegro was poised for a new era of peace. Secondly, the Disposal of Toxic Hazardous Substances component saw the safe disposal of more than 115 tons of the toxic rocket fuel component mélange oxidizer from the Bay of Kotor, thus removing a serious threat to public health and the environment and enabling development perspectives for the scenic bay.

The two remaining components, Ammunition Demilitarization and Stockpile Management, are underway. Under the Ammunition Demilitarization component, some 480 tons of conventional ammunition have been successfully demilitarized within the first phase, and the second phase is now focused on unstable and obsolete ammunition.

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