

**11TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUBSCRIBING STATES TO
THE HAGUE CODE OF CONDUCT AGAINST
BALLISTIC MISSILE PROLIFERATION**

PRESS RELEASE BY HCOC SUBSCRIBING STATES

The eleventh annual Regular Meeting of the Subscribing States to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCoC) took place in Vienna from May 31 to June 1, 2012.

The participants recognized the importance of the Code as a unique multilateral confidence building and transparency instrument, and noted that 2012 marks the 10th Anniversary of the Code.

Romania, as outgoing Chair of the HCoC, outlined the efforts made during the last year to promote the universalization of the HCoC and to reinforce its implementation by Subscribing States. The Republic of Korea, elected during the last plenary meeting as Chair for 2012-2013, introduced the objectives of its presidency for the next year: the full and comprehensive implementation of the Code in all its aspects, conducting outreach activities for advancing the process of HCoC universalization and, following the Bucharest seminar of April 2012, continue marking the tenth anniversary. Participants agreed to mandate Japan as the next Chair for 2013 - 2014.

The participants welcomed the recent subscription of Republic of Congo and Singapore to the Code. Currently, 134 States have subscribed to this instrument. Subscribing States appreciated various outreach activities conducted by the outgoing Chair as well as by interested Subscribing States.

Subscribing States reaffirmed the threat to international peace and security posed by the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery, which constitutes an ongoing concern of the international community in some regions of the world. In this context, they considered encouraging new subscriptions to the Hague Code of Conduct especially in these regions.

The Subscribing States reiterated the importance of UN General Assembly resolution 65/73 in support of the HCoC adopted by 162 UN Member States at the 65th Session of the UN General Assembly. The Subscribing States agreed to continue to support the efforts for reaching universalization of the Code. Such a support is of paramount importance. The Subscribing States agreed to promote a resolution on the HCoC to be adopted at the 67th Session of UNGA.

The Subscribing States welcomed the recent developments in terms of implementation of the Code since the last Regular Meeting, in particular with regard to pre-launch notifications, and underlined the importance of further steps in this direction.

Finally, Azerbaijan announced its candidacy for Chairmanship for 2014/2015.

Note to the Press: Further background and documentation on the HCoC can be obtained from www.hcoc.at.