

**13TH REGULAR MEETING OF THE SUBSCRIBING STATES TO
THE HAGUE CODE OF CONDUCT AGAINST
BALLISTIC MISSILE PROLIFERATION**

PRESS RELEASE BY HCoC SUBSCRIBING STATES

The thirteenth annual Regular Meeting of the Subscribing States to the Hague Code of Conduct against Ballistic Missile Proliferation (HCoC) took place in Vienna, with the participation of 67 registered delegations, from May 29 to May 30, 2014.

The participants reaffirmed the importance of the Code as a unique multilateral confidence building and transparency instrument against ballistic missiles proliferation, while contributing to the process of strengthening existing national and international security arrangements and disarmament and non-proliferation objectives and mechanisms.

Japan, as outgoing Chair of the HCoC, outlined the efforts made during the last year to enhance the universalization of the HCoC and to enhance its implementation by Subscribing States. Peru, on assuming the Chairmanship for 2014-2015, introduced the objectives of its presidency for the year: the full and comprehensive implementation of the Code in all its aspects, and strengthening outreach activities for advancing the process of HCoC universalization.

The participants welcomed the new subscriptions of Antigua and Barbuda, the Commonwealth of Dominica as well as St. Kitts and Nevis to the Code. Currently, 137 States have subscribed to the Code. Subscribing States appreciated the outreach activities conducted by the outgoing Chair as well as by interested Subscribing States and the European Union.

The 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 a serious concern of the international community, particularly in some regions. In this regard, the recent DPRK ballistic missile launches were noted in the course of the discussion. The Subscribing States stressed the ongoing need to stem the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery and to encourage new subscriptions to the Hague Code of Conduct, particularly by countries with space launch vehicle and ballistic missile capabilities.

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 69th Session of the UN General Assembly.

The Subscribing States stressed the importance of the full implementation of the Code, in particular with regard to Pre-Launch-Notifications and the timely submission of Annual Declarations, and underlined the importance of further steps in this direction.

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