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ASD SECRETARY GENERAL

**STACCATO Final Forum,
Charlemagne Building, 170 rue de la Loi, Brussels**

24th April 2008

- On behalf of ASD and the STACCATO partners, let me warmly welcome you to this Forum. The primary objective is to offer a window of opportunity to present and invite to comment the preliminary outputs of the STACCATO project. This project aims at proposing methods and solutions for the creation of a European security market and a structured supply chain in Europe.
- Two years passed since SeNTRE (Security Network for technological research in Europe) delivered its “Strategic Plan for Security in Europe” and you may even remember that we had met here in Brussels on the occasion of the SeNTRE Forum.
- These two important supporting actions were and are both conducted under the coordination of ASD in the framework of the Preparatory Action for Security Research (PASR) 2004-2006.
- SeNTRE provided important inputs by advising the European Commission on the shape and the content of the “European Security Research Programme” in parallel and in coordination with the European Security Research Advisory Board (ESRAB).
- At that time we realised that a lot of work was done but bigger efforts still remained in front of us. ASD and SeNTRE partners understood that it was very important to push forward the “Strategic Research Agenda” that was one of the main deliverable of SeNTRE.
- Based on the SeNTRE experience, STACCATO is therefore going beyond these preliminary results and concentrates its efforts on:
 - establishing a coherent process leading from user requirement definition to the identification of relevant technologies,
 - creating a sustainable dialogue among users and technology providers,
 - defining a unique security taxonomy as a common language,
 - mapping the capability and technology requirements and
 - proposing methods and recommendations to foster the security market and a structured supply chain in Europe.
- The results of SENTRE have been a significant contribution to the work of ESRAB and provided input to the EC about the comprehensive structure of the European Security Research Programme. STACCATO is performing the same role with regards to the European Security Research and Innovation Forum (ESRIF), the successor of ESRAB.

- Let me stress therefore the importance of the today STACCATO Final Forum that is a unique event whose participants are ranging from the entire spectrum of relevant stakeholders; European institutions, end users both at National and European level, Industry, Research and Technology Institutions, Small and Medium Enterprises, Think Tanks and Academia.
- This is the only way to address security concerns common to all European citizens in a comprehensive and multi-disciplinary way.
- Industry through ASD is not new to this kind of initiative.
ASD acted and is acting in order to put emphasis on the setting up of a structured framework aiming at coordinating and streamlining the responses to the PASR and FP7 calls. In this regard, we set up the Security Mission Industry Groups.
Largely known by the acronym “SMIGs”, these groups serve as networks of experts and key R&T players in their respective mission area. They aim at preparing proposals and making suggestions in order to establish appropriate links with the user community and other key stakeholders that would be essential for identifying the priorities of the mission area they represent.
- The essential feature of this network is its openness and inclusiveness with a participation not limited to ASD members only. Special attention was and is still given to engaging players from SMEs and from the new Member States. Both SeNTRE and STACCATO are outputs of the collaboration installed on the occasion of SMIGs and illustrate the collaborative philosophy among all stakeholders.
- This is also contributing to bridge both sides of the security market. Integrating, enlarging and consolidating the European Security Equipment Market (ESEM), is a priority for the EU, and will result in competitiveness and growth.
- From the supply, and therefore industry point of view, the security market remains highly fragmented at regional, national, EU and international level. This issue affects not only the industry but also all European security stakeholders including end users and ultimately, the European citizens.
- On the demand side a lack of structure, market scale and standardisation are also to be underlined. It is therefore a requirement to establish a comprehensive dialogue overarching all the different sectors of the market and synchronising them through a better coordination and collaboration.
- The **dialogue between demand and supply** of security technologies needs to be strengthened in order to obtain a clear view of the European security research needs and priorities. **Today’s challenge is therefore to link security research with security policy making and its implementation**
- This comprehensive approach includes also the **action of the EU Institutions and their views on future developments**, but this is a subject to be treated later and that I leave to our guest who will take the floor after me on behalf of the European Commission..

- The current limited cooperation between Member States and the lack of coordination between national and European efforts resulted in exacerbating the lack of public research funding and present major obstacles in delivering cost-effective solutions.
It is therefore important to foster the development of rules and regulations related to the EU security market **between the European Commission, Member States, other bodies and industry**.
It is also necessary to create interdisciplinary programmes, complementary funding mechanisms between the European Commissions, Member States and other bodies among different thematic areas in order to better use the EU funds.
- **Fostering standardisation activities** in the field of security is also to be underlined, thus promoting interoperability.
- Looking at the strategic vision for the security in Europe, a **Public Private Partnership-like approach** and **new budget lines** devoted to security in the EU budget are also important. This is relevant for both research technology & development activities and new integrated innovative cost-effective services approach taking into account the level of sensitivity of security mission and technology.
- To this end STACCATO recommends also furthering the analysis of the scope of “sensitivity” in the Security field, where it relates not only to technologies and missions but also and mainly to the final users, with the level of confidentiality they require.
- To conclude, before leaving the floor to Ms Blasch, I wish to express my firm believe that the breadth of participants gathered today here in the premises that were kindly offered by the European Commission will ensure a fruitful exchange of ideas and comments on the finalisation of the key issues and recommendations toward an European security market that STACCATO is achieving.

I also wish to take this opportunity to ask you to widely contribute to the following debate. This is the key to success of this STACCATO Final Forum.

Thank you for your attention.

Ms Blasch, the floor is yours...

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