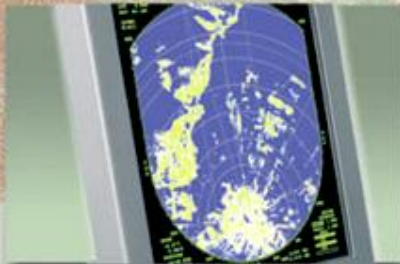


СДРУЖЕНИЕ БЪЛГАРСКА ОТБРАНИТЕЛНА ИНДУСТРИЯ



BULGARIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION





THE CAPABILITIES OF THE BULGARIAN DEFENCE INDUSTRY FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE MODERNISATION OF THE BULGARIAN ARMY

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INTRODUCTION

Dynamic changes in the parameters of the security environment leads to the need to define new priorities, building new industrial capabilities, diversify production, concentrating efforts in key areas of the main producers of weapons and equipment.

That determines the capabilities of the Bulgarian industry, including the defense industry to meet the ever increasing needs for security and ensuring both, the national and our allies and partners defense capabilities. This is the purpose of my current report, to present to your attention the challenges facing the Bulgarian defense industry and the prospects for its future as an economic guarantor of national and collective defense capabilities.



I. WHICH ARE THE STARTING POINTS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY?

Starting points :

- ❖ security and defense of the Republic of Bulgaria;
- ❖ economy of the country;
- ❖ potential contributions to European security and fulfillment of our allied commitments to NATO.



Relevant government authorities have to clearly, precisely and specifically outline the answers **to the following questions** :

- ❖ Which of the available technological and production capacities of the defense industry can and should be used?
- ❖ In what way, with what resources and for what period of time must be upgraded those identified capacities?
- ❖ Which technology trends and capabilities of the industry our country should support for the retention of the existing and the introduction of new international niches?
- ❖ What research and development capacities of our own science and industry we must develop to support and to develop the technological and production capacities of the defense industry?



II. POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION OF THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY FOR PROVIDING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE CAPABILITIES

Main question: "How can we participate in the implementation of plans and programs of the Ministry of Defence until 2020?"

Common framework of actions for the main contributions implementation:

- ❖ completion of staff with clothing, equipment and all kind and grade of small arms;
- ❖ manufacture all kinds of ammunition and equipment supplied from abroad;
- ❖ development of advanced security systems for critical infrastructure objects;
- ❖ logistics support at home and abroad, of all types and classes of military equipment and armament;
- ❖ integration of systems and equipment, incl. development, testing and implementation of application software.



Main direction of the provision of national contributions - appropriate involvement in the implementation of key policies to build the capabilities required as per the approved by the Council of Ministers on 01 October 2014, "National program: Bulgaria in NATO and the European Defence 2020".

Expected benefits for the defense industry:

- ❖ medium-term business program development;
- ❖ incentive for investment in future developments;
- ❖ imposing international market the purchased products by the Bulgarian army;
- ❖ improving employment (including subcontractors), which will be beneficial in other sectors of the economy.



List of preferred Bulgarian suppliers for modernization of the Bulgarian Army.

It may include, but is not limited to:

- ❖ small arms and means for personal and comprehensive protection - "ARSENAL" JSC and "ARCUS" JSC;
- ❖ systems for early detection, identification, suppression and elimination of consequences of terrorist threats - "SAMEL - 90" JSC and Institute of Metal Science, Equipment and Technologies with Hydro-aerodynamics Center - BAS (IMSETHC - BAS);
- ❖ optical and optoelectronic systems - "OPTICS" JSC and "OPTICOELECTRON GROUP" JSC;
- ❖ communication and information systems - "SAMEL - 90" JSC and "Black Sea" JSC;
- ❖ clothing and the army outfit - „MAK” JSC Gabrovo, IMSETHC – BAS and "MARS Modular Systems" Ltd.



III. POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF THE DEFENSE INDUSTRY TO ENSURE THE COLLECTIVE DEFENSE CAPABILITIES

1. Contribution to the European Union - European Defence Agency.

a) *Capability Development Plan (CDP)* – 12 functional areas.

Bulgarian defense industry owns a number of technological solutions, internationally recognized in some of these areas, namely:

- ❖ Mine Counter-Measures in littoral sea areas;
- ❖ Comprehensive Approach – military implications;
- ❖ Counter-Improvised Explosive Device;
- ❖ Increased availability of helicopters.



b) *European Defence Research & Technology Strategy (EDRTS)* - 22 common priorities for research and technology.

With success we can develop the following *priorities*:

- ❖ Command and control technologies, especially at area of innovative Sensors for Urban Warfare, including acoustic and seismic sensors;
- ❖ Networked sensor control, management and cueing;
- ❖ Technologies for secure and robust information management, information exchange and communications;
- ❖ Physical protection;
- ❖ Environment definition (Oceanographic & hydrographic techniques and analysis);
- ❖ Uninhabited naval systems, especially underwater systems.



Directions in research and technology in the European Defence Agency, in which we can make our contribution:

- ❖ Command information systems and networks;
- ❖ Flight systems;
- ❖ Systems for simulation and experiments;
- ❖ Energetic materials, various types of ammunition, including missiles;
- ❖ Program for unmanned maritime systems – UMS.

2. Contribution to the collective capabilities of NATO.

- a) providing of the conventional defence capabilities of the Alliance;
- b) response to unconventional threats.

Advantages for the defense industry.

- ❖ providing a wider and complex satisfying of national defense capabilities and operational capabilities of the armed forces;
- ❖ worthy "positioning" within the EU and NATO in this area;
- ❖ providing numerous additional effects of specific economic benefits.



CONCLUSION

To remain competitive and to develop competencies in response to national and collective defense capabilities, need to be developed and implemented jointly by the state and the industry adopted Strategy for development of the Bulgarian defence industrial and technological base; National program and Action plan for implementation of the Strategy and the Strategy for research and technologies in security and defence, which was adopted by the Intergovernmental Council for defence industry and security of supply, but unfortunately this process has not evolved in the direction of its practical implementation.

This will ensure the achievement of pre-planned expectations to all authorities and organizations committed to its activities to ensure the security and defence of the country.



Thank you for your attention !

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