

Summary of the German Government's 2004 Report on Military Equipment Exports

With reference to Section V of the "Political Principles of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for the Export of War Weapons and Other Military Equipment" as amended on 19 January 2000, the German government is pleased to submit herewith its sixth Report on Military Equipment Exports, covering the year 2004.¹

During the reporting year, effective war weapon exports² totaled € 1.129 billion. The share of exports going to the EU, NATO, and countries with NATO-equivalent status stood at roughly 71%. Classic developing countries³ accounted for roughly 24% of exports in 2004; this was nearly exclusively the result of the export of two corvettes to South Africa (without the corvette exports the figure is 0.25%).

Statistics have been compiled only from the applications filed for export licenses since there are presently no statistics on actual exports of the full range of military equipment such as are found on the internationally largely harmonized so-called Common List of Military Equipment and, alongside war weapons, also include diverse items of military equipment such as pistols and hunting and sporting weapons. The background is the different systematic approaches taken by the EU's Common List of Exports and the Eurostat list of goods; unlike the situation with war weapons, companies are not required to report actual exports of other military equipment. Experience shows that figures for military equipment licensed for export are normally higher than statistics compiled for military equipment then actually exported on the basis of such licenses.

In year under report, the total value of individual export licenses issued for military equipment amounted to roughly € 3.8 billion (2003: approximately € 4.9 billion). Of this amount, 72% was

¹ The Military Equipment Export Reports submitted thus far have been published as Bundestag offprints (cf. BT-Drucksache 14/4179 for the year 1999; BT-Drucksache 14/7657 for the year 2000; BT-Drucksache 15/230 for the year 2001; BT-Drucksache 15/2257 for the year 2002; and BT-Drucksache 15/4400 for the year 2003) and may be found on the Internet at: <http://www.bmwi.bund.de> (click onto "Außenwirtschaft und Europa," then "Aussenwirtschaftspolitik," then "Außenwirtschaftsrecht," and finally "Exportkontrolle"). For the English versions, select "English," then "Publications."

² Exports of military equipment from Germany to other Member States of the European Union are designated as "consignments" (cf. Section 7(1) in conjunction with Section 4c(2) of the Foreign Trade and Payments Ordinance). In the interest of simplification, however, "consignments" are also referred to as "exports" in this Report.

accounted for by countries from the EU and NATO and countries with NATO-equivalent status, and 28% by third countries (2003: 67 % and 33 % respectively). Classic developing countries accounted for 11% of the overall value of all individual export licenses (2003: 12%).⁴ The value of the collective licenses granted for exports in connection with defense cooperation between EU and NATO partners amounted to roughly € 2.4 billion during the reporting year.

³ Developing countries and developing territories pursuant to Part I of the List of the OECD's Development Assistance Committee for 2003 without the countries featuring high and upper medium incomes (including NATO partner Turkey, as well as Slovenia, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia).

⁴ For details, see III. 1. a) and b).