



ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL
FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS AND SECURITY POLICY
LE SECRETAIRE GENERAL ADJOINT
POUR LES AFFAIRES POLITIQUES ET LA POLITIQUE DE SÉCURITÉ

PASP(2020)0344

30 June 2020

Dear Ambassador Matulionis,

We have an unexpected shortfall in staffing of our Arms Control, Disarmament, and WMD Non-Proliferation Centre (ACDC), with the loss of two of our Voluntary National Contributions (VNC's), in May and August 2020. Currently, ACDC is in the lead on building support for Allied Vienna Document modernization proposals, preparing Allies for risk reduction and military transparency discussions as part of dialogue with Russia, managing efforts in support to Allied contributions to conventional and nuclear arms control, supporting the High Level Task Force and Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Committee, and working with Partners to further small arms and light weapons initiatives. The COVID – 19 situation adds further strain in ensuring proper rotation and social distancing of staff, while seeking to maintain a very high standard of work in advancing NATO key tasks. I think you can appreciate the need in support from our contributing nations.

Given Lithuania's constant and active contribution to Allied arms control consultations and policy – making, I would appreciate if you would consider continuing supporting ACDC with a VNC.

The position to be filled would include helping ACDC formulate and promulgate Alliance arms control policy, as well as the full range of policy and administrative support to ACDC's role leading the Special Advisory and Consultative Arms Control, Disarmament, and Non-Proliferation Committee, and the Committee on Proliferation, as well as NATO-Russia dialogue and discussions in the Deputies and Political Committees on arms control issues. He/she would serve as an expert on nuclear and conventional Arms Control, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation (ADN) topics, helping advise NATO leadership and the North Atlantic Council on relevant developments in NATO, the UN, the OSCE, the EU, and other international organizations, as well as around the world.

Typically, we would expect that a VNC would serve with us for a period of up to two years, with the option for extensions if it serves all parties' interest. I know personnel and budget for such a contribution are difficult to commit and are quite precious.

However, given the importance of this work, I would greatly appreciate your Authorities considering the provision of a VNC.

Thank you for your consideration in advance.

Yours Sincerely

Bettina Cadenbach

His Excellency
Ambassador Deividas Matulionis
Permanent Representative
of Lithuania to NATO

