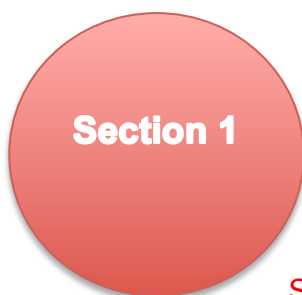


Corrections and updates to EISF Briefing Paper *Engaging Private Security Providers*

Note:

Engaging Private Security Providers: A Guideline for Non-Governmental Organisations was first published in December 2011. While this is not an exhaustive update, this document intends to reflect the most important developments in the sector since the document was published, as well as correct some mistakes. EISF would like to thank Anne James, Quality, Standards and Accreditations Manager from Salamanca Group, for her help with the corrections.



Section 1

International regulation and certification

As mentioned in **Section 1 International regulation and certification**, a PSP's endorsement of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Providers (ICoC) is not a guarantee of its quality and performance.

The ICoC signatory list is not a sure way of assessing private

security providers' levels of quality assurance management and operational standards in place, since no official oversight mechanism is in place to ensure PSCs are adhering to the principles of the code.

Within the past year, the ICoC have formed the 'International Code of Conduct Association', which will involve an enhanced vetting

procedure to become a member. Membership to the association will eventually supersede the signatory status, which will become defunct.

Find out more here:
<http://www.icoca.ch/>

Likewise, Section 1 refers also to 'certification', but there is no reference throughout the briefing paper to PSC 1 Certification. This is the standard management system that private security providers should obtain when working in the land environment.

Originally an American standard, PSC 1 has been adopted globally,

and is becoming an international standard in Summer 2015, which will be known as ISO 18788 'Management System for Private Security Operations'. There is an equivalent standard that exists for Maritime Security, the ISO 28007-1 'Guidelines for Private Maritime Security Companies (PMSC) providing privately contracted armed security personnel (PCASP) on board ships'.

- These corrections apply also to **Section 4.4 Verification and vetting of PSPs** (page 13) and **Checklist 3 Bidding and selection** (page 22).



Section 4

How to engage with PSPs

In **Section 4.5 Contracting – setting the scope and modalities of operation** (page 13), the phrase 'rules of engagement' should be replaced with the phrase 'rules for

the use of force' when used for private security companies. 'Rules of engagement' is a military term, whereas 'rules for the use of force' is more commonly used by PSPs.



Annex 1

Core competences of PSPs

Changes to the checklist on **Annex 1 Core Competencies of PSPs** (page 19) are highlighted in grey on the table.

PROVIDER	YES	NO
Fully licensed for services requested		
Financially sound and accountable		
Member of the ICoC association or at the least a signatory		
Management is estimated competent and able to deliver		
Good track record on performance within the boundaries of the law, and behaviour compatible with humanitarian standards		
Proof of quality and references can be provided		
No background in (para-) military or defence business		
PSC 1 (or ISO 18788 'Management System for Private Security Companies') or ISO 28007-1 for private maritime security companies		
STAFFING		
Staff are adequately trained for the tasks they are being designated to		
Staff are paid in accordance with national labour law, minimum wages		
Obligatory taxes, social security and pension are being paid by provider		
Staff is expected to work acceptable work schedules, except for specially agreed assignments, mutually agreed by provider and staff member(s)		
ARMED GUARDS		
Provider has appropriate licenses to import, possess and use the specified arms in country according to national law and compliant with international law on use of firearms		
Staff are licensed and trained according to prevailing law in case of handling firearms		
Language proficiency of guards is sufficient to enable communication with visitors, residents and staff		
SERVICES		
Provider is able to guarantee the agreed services as per contract		
Provider assumes full responsibility for the health and well-being of its staff including provision of first aid, vaccination and medical treatment		
Provider assumes full liability in case of negligence or in case of breach of contractual stipulations		
Provider has adequate insurance for liability, damages and injuries		
OTHER/MISCELLANEOUS		