

**Organized by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)**

**Capacity-building Workshop on the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit SALW**

**27-28 May 2008,  
Seoul, Republic of Korea**

## **Background**

On 27 and 28 May 2008, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) organized the ‘Capacity-building Workshop on the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit SALW’ at the Shilla Hotel, Seoul, the Republic of Korea. The workshop was hosted by the Republic of Korea (RoK).

This workshop was the last in a series of four sub-regional workshops, organized and implemented by UNODA in collaboration with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL). The series aimed at promoting the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) and at assisting States in its implementation. In addition, the workshops aimed to initiate country-specific needs assessments with regard to the implementation of the ITI.

The workshops focused on practical elements in the field of small arms and light weapons with the objective of providing participants with relevant information that would enhance their understanding of the ITI and technical aspects related to tracing illicit small arms and light weapons (SALW).

## **Sponsors, participants and partners**

The workshop in Seoul was organized with the financial support of the European Union and the Governments of Norway and the Republic of Korea. 29 participants<sup>1</sup> from 17 countries from the Asia Pacific Region attended the workshop. In addition to INTERPOL and the UNODA, the following partners contributed to the workshop: the Bonn International Centre for Conversion (BICC) and the US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF). An expert from the Republic of Korea also contributed to the workshop.

## **Summary of workshop sessions**

The workshop was opened with a reception for participants and experts on 26 May, the evening before the first day of the workshop. The reception was hosted by Mr. Young-wan Song, Director-General for International Organizations at the Ministry of Foreign

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<sup>1</sup>Please find a detailed list of participants, resource persons and representatives of sponsors at the workshop as annex 1 to this report.

Affairs and Trade (MOFAT) of the Republic of Korea. The opening session<sup>2</sup> on 27 May was chaired by Mr. Young-wan Song; welcoming remarks were extended by H.E. Mr. Joon Oh, Deputy Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs of the Republic of Korea. Statements were also made by the following donor representatives: H.E. Mr. Philippe Thiebaud, Ambassador of France to the Republic of Korea; Mr. Andreas Strub, Coordinator, on behalf of the Office of the High Representative's Personal Representative on non-proliferation, Council of the European Union; Mr. Martin Hauge Torbergsen, First Secretary at the Royal Norwegian Embassy to the Republic of Korea. H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs of the UNODA, held a Keynote Address.

Session I of the workshop was dedicated to an overview of the Programme of Action (PoA),<sup>3</sup> the United Nations Firearms Protocol,<sup>4</sup> and the International Tracing Instrument. Session II focused on a detailed presentation of the main provisions of the ITI, with an emphasis on actions that States may have to put in place in order to implement those provisions. Session III discussed the value-added of regional and sub-regional instruments in implementing the ITI and outlined the challenges and opportunities for regional cooperation in Asia. Session IV was devoted to a presentation and discussion on legislation and regulations that may be required in order to comply with the ITI. At the end of the first day of the workshop, the participants were honored with a dinner hosted by H.E. Mr. Joon Oh, Deputy Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs.

The work of the morning of the second day was conducted at the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS) of the Republic of Korea. This included a “hands-on” tracing exercise (session V) involving the use of the INTERPOL Weapons electronic Tracing System (IWeTS) to trace illicit SALW. Session VI focused on preparations for the Third Biennial Meeting of States and other follow-up matters such as national reporting on the implementation of the ITI. Session VII was dedicated to an exchange of national experiences and identification of areas where international cooperation and assistance might be needed for the effective implementation of the ITI.

In addition to the substantive sessions of the workshop, technical presentations were made on a number of topics of relevance to cooperation in tracing. The goal of these presentations was to familiarize participants with tools and techniques for tracing illicit SALW. Two technical presentations were made on the first day: “technical presentations were made on stockpile management and marking and tracing of SALW in the Republic of Korea”; and “fundamentals of weapons identification and tracing”. On the second day, technical presentations were made on the following topics: The INTERPOL Weapons Electronic Tracing System (IWeTS); the E-Trace System of the United States Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF); and the Firearms Database of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.

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<sup>2</sup>For more details, please find the programme of work of the workshop in annex 2 to this report.

<sup>3</sup>United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects.

<sup>4</sup>United Nations Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

Session VI outlined the Instrument's reporting requirement and highlighted UNODA's internet-based tools to support and further enhance the implementation of the PoA and the Instrument. Session VIII focused on implementation challenges and constraints and provided a forum for exchange on national and sub-regional experiences, international cooperation and needs for assistance and capacity-building. H.E. Ambassador Dalius Čekuolis, Chair-designate of the Third Biennial Meeting of States (BMS), held a Keynote Address on the status of preparations for the BMS. Ambassador Čekuolis briefed participants on his consultation and other preparatory work for the BMS, which included a segment on the consideration of the implementation of the ITI. In particular, he stressed the importance of timely submission of high-national reports of high quality and pointed to Member States' wish for a results-oriented and interactive BMS, geared towards the common goal of a collectively negotiated and endorsed outcome document.

### **Discussion and participants' views**

Each workshop session was followed by discussions, questions and comments by participants. From such an interaction, the following points can be highlighted:

- It was apparent that a large number of participants had very little familiarity with the ITI;
- The participants showed a high degree of interest in the subjects discussed at the workshop;
- There was a sense that the lack of a mechanism for regional cooperation or a regional SALW instrument was an impediment to progress in the implementation of measures to fight the illicit trade in SALW;
- Enhanced information exchange and cooperation on SALW issues is needed in the region;
- The value of the ITI as a tool for combating the illicit trade in SALW was recognized;
- Participants stressed the usefulness of INTERPOL's tools for facilitating the tracing of illicit SALW and expressed interest in learning more about them;
- The need for capacity-building was a recurrent theme during the discussions;
- The importance of national reporting on the implementation of the PoA and the ITI was emphasized;
- Participants recognized the need for States to assess their capacity-building needs in order to facilitate international cooperation and assistance for the implementation of the ITI.

### **Recommendations**

- Tracing illicit SALW is fundamental to efforts to identify and eradicate the sources and routes of trafficking in SALW.

- In view of the transborder nature of the illicit trade in SALW, tracing illicit SALW requires States to cooperate with one another in a systematic manner. In this regard, the ITI constitutes an important tool and its full implications need to be well understood by the relevant national officials.
- States that have not already done so are encouraged to begin putting in place the measures necessary to ensure that all SALW in their territorial jurisdiction are duly marked. These include SALW in Government armed and security stocks.
- Recognizing that illicit SALW can easily flow across national borders, States are encouraged to enhance sub-regional and regional cooperation to address region-specific SALW problems.
- States should make an effort to develop mechanisms to foster information-sharing and networking, which are an essential factor for the timely and reliable tracing of illicit SALW.
- States that have not already done so are encouraged to submit to UNODA their reports on the implementation of the PoA and the ITI.
- Member States are encouraged to enhance their familiarity with INTERPOL's Weapons electronic Tracing System (IWeTs), which is an important tool for the tracing of illicit SALW. States are also encouraged to support the further development of IWeTs and other INTERPOL tools that can facilitate cooperation in tracing illicit SALW.
- The implementation of the ITI presents a variety of challenges which are political, logistical and financial, and also a question of political will and capacity-building. International assistance and cooperation may go a long way to help States in their implementation efforts.
- States are encouraged to take stock of their needs, with a view to identifying areas where international assistance is needed for the implementation of the ITI.
- The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and Pacific can play an important role in promoting subregional and/or regional cooperation in the area of SALW. To that effect, States are encouraged to provide the necessary support to the Centre so that it may discharge its mandate in an effective manner.

### **Where do we go from here?**

Participants are encouraged to:

- Carry out departmental debriefings on workshop proceedings, upon return to their respective capitals;
- Promote the ITI among law enforcement and other relevant officials so that it becomes part of the national practices for weapons management;
- Keep in touch with workshop alumni;
- Help ensure that the present workshop acts as catalyst for an active participation in the Biennial Meeting of States, especially in the segment devoted to the ITI.

### **Evaluation**

Upon the conclusion of the workshop, participants were requested by UNODA to complete an anonymous evaluation of the workshop. The feedback was generally positive with most of the questions being answered with "good", "very good", "agree" or "strongly agree". Seventy five percent of those that submitted evaluations strongly agreed

that the workshop had improved their understanding of the ITI; twenty five percent answered “agreed”. Additionally, all evaluations indicated that the material from the workshop enhanced their understanding of the issues related to SALW marking and firearms identification. Participants’ evaluation of the overall quality of the workshop and its relevance to the participants’ work were positive. Annex 3 to this report summarizes the responses provided by the participants.

**The following individuals provided expertise and served as resource persons:**

*Mr. Michael Ashkenazi*, Small Arms Team Leader, Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC); *H.E. Mr. Dalius Čekuolis*, Chair-Designate of the 3<sup>rd</sup> BMS; *Brigadier Ranjan de Silva*, National Coordinator, National Commission against the Proliferation of Illicit SALW (NCAPISA); *H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte*, United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs; *Mr. António E. Évora*, Small Arms Team Leader, UNODA; *Mr. Martin Hauge Torbergsen*, First Secretary, Royal Norwegian Embassy to the Republic of Korea; *Ms. Rifana Indira*, Official, Department of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia; *Mr. Yasumitsu Kida*, Conventional Arms Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan; *Mr. William F. Kullman*, US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF); *H.E. Mr. Joon Oh*, Deputy Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs, ROK; *Mr. Lee Sang-Woong*, Ministry of National Defence, Republic of Korea; *Mr. Young-wan Song*, Director-General for International Organizations, Republic of Korea; *Mr. Andreas Strub*, Coordinator, Council of the European Union, Office of the High Representative’s Personal Representative for Non-Proliferation; *H.E. Mr. Philippe Thiebaud*, Ambassador of France to the Republic of Korea; *Mr. John Williams*, Criminal Intelligence Officer, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL).

**Annex 1.**

<b>COUNTRY</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>NAME OF PARTICIPANT</b>
<b>AUSTRALIA</b>	1	Mr. Adam Jones
<b>BANGLADESH</b>	2	Mr. Md. Fazlur Rahman
	3	Mr. Md. Iqbal Bahar
<b>CHINA</b>	4	Mr. Xiongfei Qian
	5	Ms. Xin Lu
<b>INDIA</b>	6	Mr. Vipul
<b>INDONESIA</b>	7	Ms. Rifana Indira
	8	Mr. Nicolaus Eko Riwayanto
	9	Mr. Tamel Vinsen Sinabutar
<b>JAPAN</b>	10	Mr. Yasumitsu Kida
<b>KAZAKHSTAN</b>	11	Mr. Azat Makhmudov
<b>MYANMAR</b>	12	Mr. Htin Lynn
<b>NEPAL</b>	13	Mr. Shrestha Badri Narayan
	14	Mr. Arun Kumar B.C.
<b>PAKISTAN</b>	15	Mr. Aftab Khokher
<b>PHILIPPINES</b>	16	Mr. Napoleon R. Estilles

	17	Mr. Froilan Pana Eloppe
<b>REPUBLIC OF KOREA</b>	18	Mr. Young-wan Song
	19	H.E Mr. Joon Oh
	20	Mr. Lee Sang-Woong
	21	Mrs. Park
	22	Mr. Lee
<b>SOLOMON ISLANDS</b>	23	Mr. Alfred Kadi
<b>SRI LANKA</b>	24	Mr. William Wijesinghe Gamage
	25	Brigadier Ranjan Pethanandi Chandra de Silva
<b>TAJIKISTAN</b>	26	Ms. Shahrinisso Davlyatova
<b>THAILAND</b>	27	Ms. Luejit Tinpanga
	28	Pol. Lt. Col. Kanittha Kaewphan
<b>VIETNAM</b>	29	Captain Police Officer Trung Nam Tran
<b>RESOURCE PERSONS</b>	30	
<b>BONN INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR CONVERSION (BICC)</b>		Dr. Michael Ashkenazi
<b>US BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS &amp; EXPLOSIVES (ATF)</b>	31	Mr. William F. Kullman III
<b>INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE</b>	32	Mr. John. H. Williams

<b>ORGANIZATION (INTERPOL)</b>		
<b>PERMANENT MISSION OF LITHUANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS</b>	33	H.E. Mr. Dalius Čekuolis
	34	Mr. Dainius Baublys
<b>REPRESENTATIVES OF DONORS</b>		
<b>DELEGATION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA</b>	35	H.E. Mr. Brian McDonald
	36	Mr. John Sagar
<b>COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION</b>	37	Mr. Andreas Strub
<b>EMBASSY OF FRANCE TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA</b>	38	H.E. Mr. Philippe Thiebaud
	39	Mr. Bertrand Hamel
<b>EMBASSY OF NORWAY TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA</b>	40	Mr. Hauge Torbergsen
<b>UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS (UNODA)</b>	41	H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte
	42	Mr. António E. Évora
	43	Ms. Vera Hanus

**Annex 2.**

**UN Workshop in Asia on International Instrument to Enable States  
to Identify and Trace Illicit Small Arms & Light Weapons**

Organized by the Government of the Republic of Korea  
and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs  
in Collaboration with the European Union, Norway and INTERPOL

**26 – 28 May, 2008**  
The Shilla Hotel, Seoul  
[www.shilla.net](http://www.shilla.net)

**Monday 26 May**

18:30-20:00 **RECEPTION**  
Hosted by the Government of the Republic of Korea  
Lilac Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Shilla Hotel

**Tuesday 27 May**

9:00 **REGISTRATION**  
Lilac Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Shilla Hotel

9:30-10:15 **OPENING SESSION**  
Chair: Mr. Young-wan Song  
Director-General for International Organizations, MOFAT, ROK

*Welcoming Remarks*

H.E. Mr. Joon Oh  
Deputy Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs, MOFAT,  
ROK

*Statements*

H.E. Mr. Philippe Thiebaud  
Ambassador of France to the Republic of Korea

Mr. Andreas Strub  
Coordinator, Council of the European Union  
Office of High Representative's Personal Representative for Non-  
proliferation

Mr. Martin Hauge Torbergsen  
First Secretary, Royal Norwegian Embassy to the Republic of Korea

*Keynote Address*

H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte

United Nations High Representative for Disarmament Affairs

10:15-11:00 **SESSION I: Overview of Relevant International Instruments**  
Chair: H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs  
Speaker: Mr. António E. Évora, Small Arms Team Leader, UNODA

11:00-11:15 Coffee Break

11:15-12:30 **SESSION II: Implementing the International Tracing Instrument – A Step by Step Walk Through the Instrument**  
Chair: Mr. Michael Ashkenazi, Small Arms Team Leader, Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC)  
Speaker: Mr. António E. Évora, UNODA

- *Thematic Presentation 1: Marking*  
The implications of the commitments made by States under the Tracing Instrument and the Firearms Protocol (Examples of national marking practices)
- *Thematic Presentation 2: Record-Keeping*  
The implications of the commitments made by States under the Tracing Instrument and the Firearms Protocol (Examples of existing practices)
- *Thematic Presentation 3: International Cooperation in Tracing*  
Mutual Cooperation under the Tracing Instrument

12:30-14:00 Lunch  
Marronnier Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Shilla Hotel

14:00-15:25 **SESSION III: The Value-added of Regional and Sub-regional Instruments**  
Chair: Mr. Andreas Strub, Coordinator, Council of the European Union, Office of High Representative's Personal Representative for Non-Proliferation  
Speaker: Mr. Michael Ashkenazi, BICC

*Examples of existing regional and subregional instruments vs. global instruments & Is there a case for regional cooperation in Asia?*

**Technical Presentation: Stockpile Management and Marking and Tracing of SALW in the ROK**

Chair: Mr. Andreas Strub, Council of the European Union

Speaker: Mr. Lee, Sang-Woong, Ministry of National Defense, ROK

15:25-15:40 Coffee Break

15:40-17:20 **SESSION IV: Legal Requirements for Enhanced International Cooperation in Tracing: Examples of National Legislations**

Chair: Mr. Andreas Strub, Council of the European Union

Speaker: Mr. William F. Kullman, US Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives (ATF)

**Technical Presentation: Fundamentals of Weapons Identification and Tracing**

Chair: Mr. Andreas Strub, Council of the European Union

Speaker: Mr. John Williams, Criminal Intelligence Officer, International Criminal

Police Organization (INTERPOL)

18:30-20:00 **Dinner hosted by the Deputy-Minister for Multilateral, Global and Legal Affairs, MOFAT, Government of the Republic of Korea**

Sam-Chong-Gak, Downtown Seoul (Bus leaves at 18:00)

## Wednesday 28 May

08:30 Bus leaves for the Institute of Foreign Affairs and National Security (IFANS)

9:30-10:30 **Technical Presentation: The INTERPOL Weapons Electronic Tracing System (IWeTS)**

Chair: Mr. William Kullman, ATF

Speaker: Mr. John Williams, INTERPOL

**Technical Presentation: The ATF eTrace-System**

Chair: Mr. John Williams, INTERPOL

Speaker: Mr. William Kullman, ATF

10:30-11:40 **SESSION V: A Practical Tracing Exercise**

Facilitators: Mr. John Williams, INTERPOL and Mr. William Kullman,

ATF

A practical and interactive step-by-step simulation exercise, developed by Interpol, which trains practitioners in international cooperation in the field of marking and tracing, including in tracing a weapon found in a crime/conflict situation, preliminary reporting, weapons identification, formulating requests, using IWeTS, responding to requests and final reporting.

11:40-12:25 Return to the Hotel

- 12:25-14:00 Lunch  
Lilac Room, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Shilla Hotel
- 14:10-14:45 **SESSION VI: Follow-up of the International Tracing Instrument**  
Chair: Mr. Young-wan Song, Director-General for International Organizations, MOFAT, ROK  
Speaker: Ms. Vera Hanus, Associate Political Affairs Officer, UNODA
- *Reporting*
  - *Review of the implementation of the ITI at the 3<sup>rd</sup> BMS*
  - *Preliminary analysis of national reports on implementation*
- 14:45-15:10 **Technical Presentation: The Firearms Database of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka**  
Chair: Mr. Young-wan Song, MOFAT, ROK  
Speaker: Brigadier Ranjan de Silva, National Coordinator, National Commission against the Proliferation of Illicit SALW (NCAPISA)
- 15:10-15:25 Coffee Break
- 15:25-17:00 **SESSION VII: Implementation Challenges, Constraints, Needs, and Assessment**  
Chair: Mr. Young-wan, Song, Director-General for International Organizations Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Republic of Korea  
Speakers: - Ms. Rifana Indira, Official, Department of Foreign Affairs, Indonesia  
- Brigadier Ranjan de Silva, National Coordinator, NCAPISA, Sri Lanka  
- Mr. Yasumitsu Kida, Conventional Arms Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan  
- Ms. Shahrinisso Davlyatova, National Mine Risk Education Coordinator, Tajikistan
- 17:00-17:30 **Keynote Address** by H.E. Mr. Dalius Čekuolis, Chair-designate of the 3<sup>rd</sup> BMS  
*Preparations of the Third Biennial Meeting of States (3<sup>rd</sup> BMS)*
- 17:30-18:00 **CLOSING SESSION**  
Wrap-up: Mr. António E. Évora, UNODA
- Closing Remarks*  
H.E. Mr. Sergio Duarte, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs  
Mr. Young-wan Song, Director-General for International Organizations, MOFAT, ROK

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**ANNEX 3: UN CAPACITY-BUILDING WORKSHOP ON THE ITI**

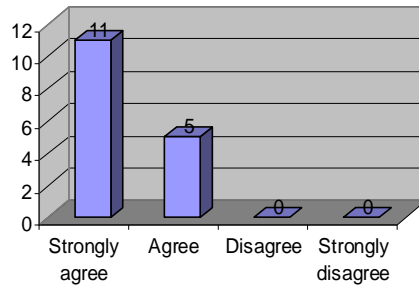
Seoul, Republic of Korea, 27 and 28 May 2008

Summary of evaluations

**1. Did the workshop improve your understanding of the International Tracing Instrument?**

Strongly agree	11
Agree	5
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0

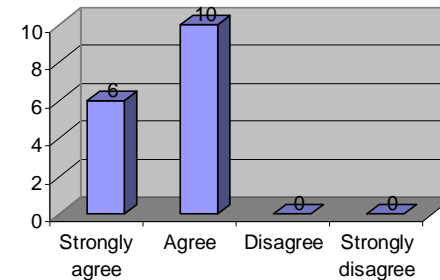
**1. Did the workshop help improve your understanding of the International Tracing Instrument?**



**2. Was the workshop useful in helping you understand the implications of the International Tracing Instrument for your country?**

Strongly agree	6
Agree	10
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0

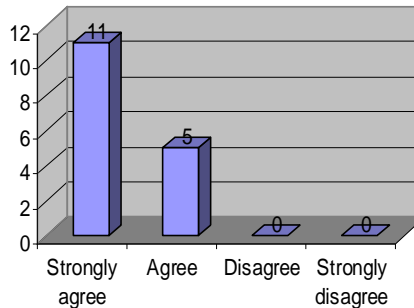
**2. Was the workshop useful in helping you understand the implications of the International Tracing Instrument for your country?**



**3. Did the presentations and technical tools enhance your understanding of the SALW marking?**

Strongly agree	11
Agree	5
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0

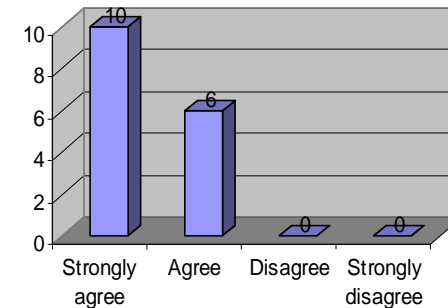
**3. Did the presentations and technical tools enhance your understanding of SALW marking?**



**4. Did the presentation and technical tools enhance your understanding of the fundamentals of firearms identification?**

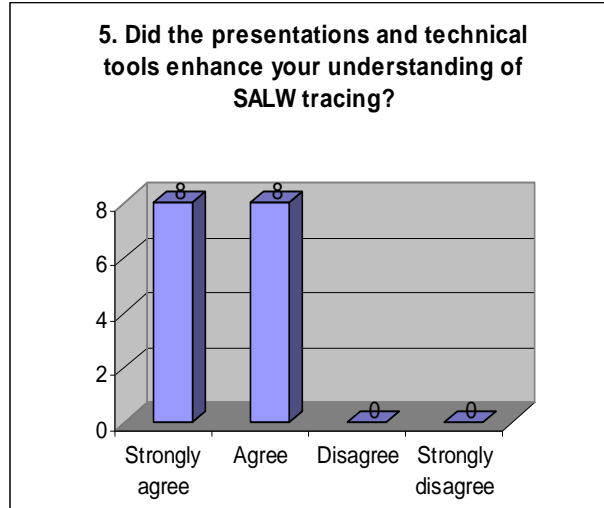
Strongly agree	10
Agree	6
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0

**4. Did the presentation and technical tools enhance your understanding of the fundamentals of firearms identification?**



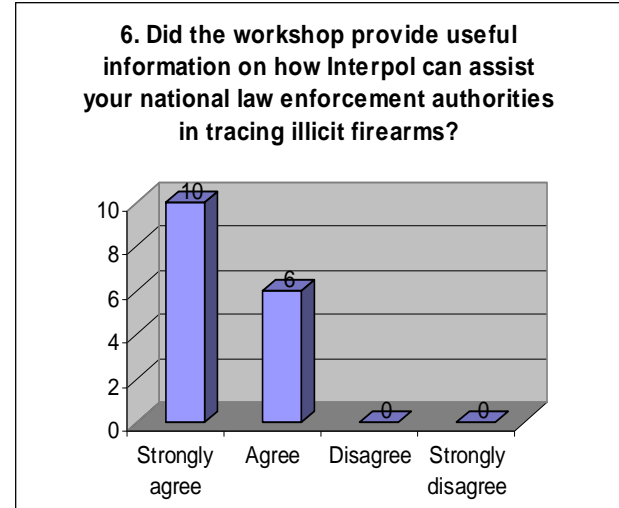
**5. Did the presentations and technical tools enhance your understanding of SALW tracing?**

Strongly agree	8
Agree	8
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0



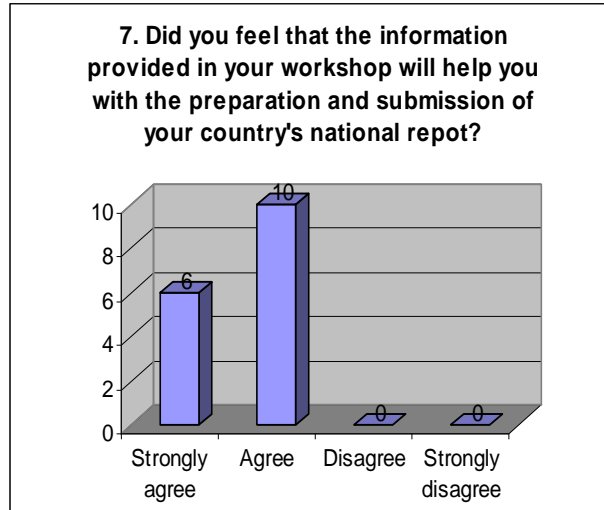
**6. Did the workshop provide useful information on how Interpol can assist your national law enforcement authorities in tracing illicit firearms?**

Strongly agree	10
Agree	6
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0



**7. Did you feel that the information provided in your workshop will help you with the preparation and submission of your country's national report?**

Strongly agree	6
Agree	10
Disagree	0
Strongly disagree	0



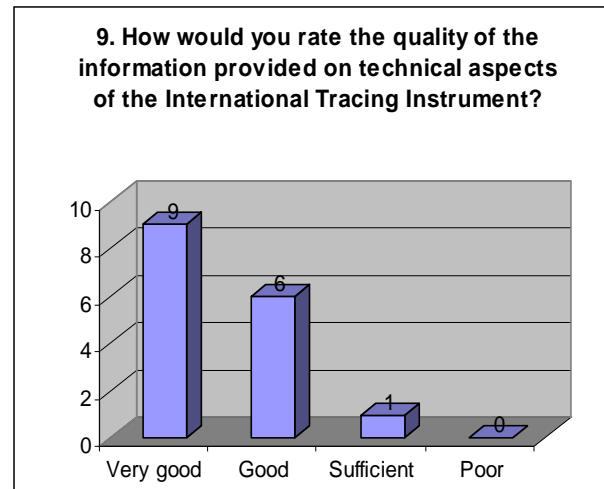
**8. How would you rate the quality of the information provided on policy-related aspects of the International Tracing Instrument?**

Very good	7
Good	7
Sufficient	2
Poor	0



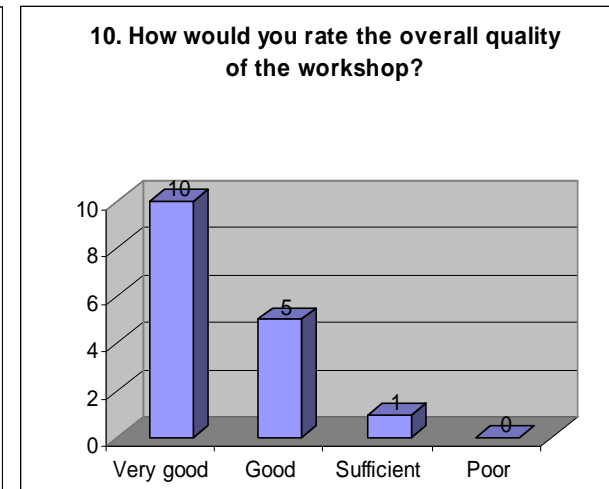
**9. How would you rate the quality of the information provided on technical aspects of the International Tracing Instrument?**

Very good	9
Good	6
Sufficient	1
Poor	0



**10. How would you rate the overall quality of the workshop?**

Very good	10
Good	5
Sufficient	1
Poor	0



**11. How would you rate the overall relevance of the workshop to your work?**

Very good	7
Good	8
Sufficient	1
Poor	0

