

Regional Meeting
on the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action
on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects
for Sub-regions of Africa: Towards the 2012 Review Conference

Nairobi, Kenya
14-15 August 2012

Outcome document

1. Representatives from the following States: Angola; Benin; Botswana; Burkina Faso; Burundi; Central African Republic; Chad; Congo; Côte d'Ivoire; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Djibouti; Ethiopia; Gabon; Gambia; Ghana; Guinea; Guinea Bissau; Kenya; Lesotho; Liberia; Malawi; Mozambique; Namibia; Niger; Nigeria; Rwanda; Senegal; Seychelles; Sierra Leone; South Africa; South Sudan; Swaziland; Tanzania; Togo; Uganda; Zambia; and Zimbabwe came together on 14-15 August 2012 to discuss sub-regional implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (Programme of Action) and the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace in a Timely and Reliable Manner Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (International Tracing Instrument), with a view to preparing for the 2012 Programme of Action Review Conference (27 August to 7 September 2012).
2. The meeting was also attended by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS); the Regional Centre on Small Arms in the Great Lakes Region, the Horn of Africa and Bordering States (RECSA); the Southern African Development Community (SADC); the Central African Police Chiefs Committee (CAPCCO); the Eastern African Police Chiefs' Cooperation Organization (EAPCCO); the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization (SARPCCO) and; the West African Police Chiefs Committee (WAPCCO), Small Arms Survey and representatives from civil society.
3. The meeting, organised by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), in cooperation with the Government of Kenya, was made possible through the financial support of the European Union.
4. We re-affirm our Governments' commitment to the full implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.
5. We also reiterate our full and firm support for the President-designate of the 2012 Programme of Action Review Conference, Ambassador Joy Ogwu of Nigeria.
6. We affirm full support for the President-designate's draft Implementation Plans for the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, while referring to the particular regional priority areas / issues of concern regarding the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons below.
7. We agree to interpret the Programme of Action on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, as including small arms and light weapons ammunition. We will therefore continue to include ammunition controls in our own national and sub-regional implementation efforts.
8. We resolve further:
 - a. To address, where relevant, the issue of illicit craft production;
 - b. To give prominent attention to all *local* aspects of implementation, including acknowledging the important role of community leaders, engaging civil society, and supporting agreed community policing initiatives;

- c. To improve stockpile management and strengthen border controls in order to combat the diversion, proliferation and transfer of illicit small arms and light weapons, including to terrorists, illegal armed groups and insurgents;
 - d. To consider the establishment within the United Nations of an enhanced implementation support mechanism for the Programme of Action and its International Tracing Instrument;
 - e. To continue addressing both the supply side and the demand side of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, which includes addressing lawlessness, providing alternative livelihoods, and embedding small arms action plans in relevant national strategies including those on combating crime, fostering security, and development;
 - f. To make full use of national reports, regional and international conferences and other means to communicate nationally and regionally coordinated assistance needs;
 - g. To further integrate, where relevant, programmes which include the provision of arms marking machines, record-keeping software and relevant training, into national procedures and practices;
 - h. To assess the effectiveness of assistance programmes regarding marking and tracing of small arms and light weapons;
 - i. To include in national small arms and light weapons marking practices all those weapons that are under a State's jurisdiction, including weapons used for peacekeeping activities;
 - j. To develop capacity within the United Nations to support the effective implementation of the International Tracing Instrument;
 - k. To consider developing agreed approaches to the marking of ammunition;
 - l. To strengthen the capacity of States in the field of record-keeping and database management;
 - m. To acknowledge the benefits of partnerships between all stakeholders, including civil society organizations and industry;
 - n. To acknowledge the linkages between combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and issues such as counter-terrorism, fighting organised crime, money laundering, trafficking in persons and drugs, piracy, armed violence, the fight against poverty, gender-based violence, and the illicit exploitation of natural resources;
 - o. To support the replication of the 2006-2012 schedule of meetings for the period 2012-2018, while suggesting that the Fifth Biennial Meeting of States (2014) may devote particular attention to the issue of stockpile management.
9. We emphasized the important role sub-regional organizations play in enabling the implementation of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument both at the national and sub-regional levels.
10. States and relevant sub-regional organizations therefore agreed to make every effort to harmonize their relevant sub-regional implementation plans / meetings schedules with the global cycle of meetings.

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ANNEX

Relevant sub-regional priorities as formulated by representatives of ECCAS, ECOWAS, RECSA, and SADC:

I. ECCAS

Les priorités des pays de l'Afrique centrale au delà de la Conférence d'examen.

Les pays de l'Afrique centrale, se basant sur le programme d'action des Nations Unies ; l'Instrument international visant à permettre aux Etats de procéder à l'identification et au traçage rapide et fiable des armes légères et de petit calibre illicites et les principes de base des Nations Unies sur le recours à la force et l'utilisation des armes à feu par les responsables de l'application des lois ainsi que l'importance du protocole contre la fabrication et le trafic illicite d'armes à feu, de leurs pièces, éléments et munitions additionnel à la Convention des Nations Unies contre la criminalité transnationale organisée ont adopté le 30 avril 2010 à Kinshasa, la Convention de l'Afrique centrale pour le contrôle des armes légères et de petit calibre, de leurs munitions et de toutes pièces et composants pouvant servir à leur fabrication, réparation et assemblage, dite Convention de Kinshasa.

La Convention de Kinshasa définit les priorités des Etats de l'Afrique centrale dans ce domaine en deux catégories dont celles déjà en exécution et celles qui restent à mettre en œuvre.

A. Les priorités déjà en cours

- 1) La mise en place des Commissions nationales et nomination des points focaux nationaux pour la lutte contre le trafic des ALPC ;
- 2) Principe de la collecte et de la destruction des armes et ;
- 3) La mise à jour, renforcement et harmonisation des législations, réglementations et procédures administratives sur le port, l'utilisation, la fabrication et la vente des armes légères.

B. Les priorités en attente de mise en œuvre

- 1) La gestion des stocks d'armes, de munitions et d'explosifs;
- 2) Le renforcement des capacités des institutions de sécurité dans le contrôle des armes légères (amélioration des opérations conjointes de sécurisation des frontières) ;
- 3) La promotion de la transparence dans le contrôle des armes légères par l'établissement d'un registre des armes et d'une banque des données;
- 4) La promotion du rôle de la société civile dans la lutte contre la circulation et la prolifération des armes légères et ;
- 5) L'identification, marquage et traçage rapide et fiable des armes légères et de petit calibre.

En conclusion, les initiatives existent, mais les pays de l'Afrique centrale plaident en faveur d'une assistance technique et financière pour la mise en œuvre des activités prioritaires de la Convention de Kinshasa.

II. Compte-rendu des Etats de la CEDEAO

Au cours de leur réflexion, les pays de la CEDEAO, après avoir pris connaissance des différents sujets et thématiques prévus à la Conférence d'examen du PoA, ont noté ce qui suit:

1. les thèmes et les sujets prévus à la Conférence d'examen du PoA sont en conformité avec les priorités de la région telles que prévues par la Convention de la CEDEAO sur les armes légères et de petit calibre, leurs munitions et autres matériels connexes;
2. les Etats membres recommandent qu'un appui soit apporté à la sous-région pour la mise en œuvre de sa convention.

Les Etats proposent en outre les actions suivantes:

1. le renforcement des capacités en termes de formation, d'assistance technique, matérielle et financière dans les domaines de:
 - la gestion des stocks, la gestion des bases de données, l'harmonisation des législations, la gestion intégrée des frontières, le marquage et le traçage;
 - le renforcement de l'assistance et de la coopération internationale;
 - le renforcement des actions de sensibilisation.

Recommandations générales:

- Les Etats de la CEDEAO recommandent l'inclusion des munitions dans le PoA;
- Les Etats de la CEDEAO recommandent un appui dans l'organisation de réunions régionales d'échanges sur les expériences et les bonnes pratiques.

III.

Priority issues RECSA region

1. Stockpile management and control, marking, record-keeping, storage facilities, safety and disposal of stocks;
2. Strengthening of national institutions through legislation, policies and capacity building;
3. Promote cooperation, assistance and resource mobilization for the implementation of Nairobi Protocol, UNPoA and ITI;
4. Support for implementation of National Action Plans and development of the same where they are not in place;
5. Poverty reduction as a way of addressing small arms proliferation;
6. Creation of awareness and public education on issues of SALW;
7. Involvement of civil society, local communities and other stakeholders.

IV.

SADC Priorities for the Review Conference

1. Actively promote and defend the President-elect's draft Outcome Document and enrich it with elements from the outcome of this workshop.
2. Active coordination, consultation and partition by SADC at the RevCon.
3. Identifying weaknesses amongst SADC States and assisting each other in priority areas, in particular in capacity-building for it to become sustainable, in e.g. training, mutual legal assistance, border controls and operations.
4. National implementation undertakings in the UNPoA remain key to its full implementation.
5. Awareness-raising on the elements in the UNPoA.
6. Ammunition and a prohibition on the transfer of SALW to armed non-State actors contribute to the problems associated with the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.
7. International cooperation and assistance is also key to the implementation of the UNPoA.
8. Implementation of the UNPoA should include all stakeholders, such as communities, civil society and civil cooperating partners.