

**Regional Implementation Guidelines**  
of States in the Pacific Region  
for the United Nations Programme of Action  
to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate  
the Illicit Trade in Small arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

**Introduction**

These Regional Implementation Guidelines function as the vehicle for concerted action to be taken by States in the Pacific Region, on implementing the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects 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), including the outcome of the Biennial Meeting of States on these instruments (2008).

Importantly, the Guidelines recognise fully the relevant action which is already being undertaken in the region, in particular cooperation and assistance efforts; national, bilateral and in the framework of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat (PIFS). Firearms-related themes are included in regional policies e.g. on small vessels, human security, conflict prevention, and the engagement of civil society and grass roots organisations. Therefore, these Guidelines draw directly on existing efforts and pull those together where such initiatives are relevant for implementing the Programme of Action.

The Guidelines are tailored towards the region and focus on so-called *SMART* objectives: Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Realistic and Time-bound. Therefore, the objectives specify what States in the region want to achieve; they are formulated in such a way as to enable States to know whether objectives have been met; they are truly attainable, and with resources at the disposal of the State in question or with resources that could realistically be acquired externally; and they should be achieved by the time of the Second Review Conference of the Programme of Action in 2012 or earlier.

## Draft Regional Implementation Guidelines

### **1. National Institutional Framework**

1.1 Those that have not already done so, to identify [a person, position, role or section] within their Government as a national point of contact (NPC) for the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument. Contact points to be communicated to all other regional points of contact, PIFS, and the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (oda-web@un.org).

**Timeline: NPC identified by end of May 2010, in order to be presented at BMS4, 14-18 June 2010.**

1.2 Those States that presently do not have a small arms national coordination body may wish to consider coordinating on small arms control within existing national frameworks including, where relevant, the broad expertise and experience of regional and relevant civil society organisations.

**Timeline: To include information on national coordination in the national / regional report, in order for result to be presented at BMS4, 14-18 June 2010.**

### **2. National legislation**

2.1 States to consider updating their national legislation that exercises control over small arms and/or adopt the PIFS Model Weapons Control Bill, which was endorsed by Leaders, August 2003.

Forum Members to request implementation assistance, where considered a priority, from PIFS. PIFS has undertaken to ensure revision of the Bill and its dissemination.

**Timeline: 31 December 2010, in order for result to be presented at UN Meeting of Governmental Experts, 10-14 January 2011.**

### **3. Brokering**

3.1 To ensure adequate provisions on illicit brokering are included in the model legislation developed by PIFS (See 2.1).

**Timeline: 31 December 2010, in order for result to be presented at UN Meeting of Governmental Experts, 10-14 January 2011.**

#### **4. Stockpile management**

4.1 To request relevant stakeholders to report on progress of the regional assistance programmes to facilitate the refurbishment / replacement of armouries and ammunition storage facilities.

**Timeline: end of May 2010, in order for result to be presented at BMS4, 14-18 June 2010.**

4.2 States in the region to regularly review national policy and procedures for stockpile management, and where appropriate to cooperate with relevant stakeholders to strengthen infrastructure, policy and practice.

**Timeline: ongoing.**

#### **5. Marking, record-keeping and tracing**

5.1 To ensure, where considered a priority, that the provisions for marking, record-keeping and exchange of information, as adopted upon under the NADI framework, and in accordance with the UN International Tracing Instrument, are fully implemented.

**Timeline: to include information on marking, record-keeping and tracing of small arms in the national / regional reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action 31 January 2010.**

5.2 Where considered to be a priority, States in the region that allow legitimate firearms ownership within their jurisdiction, to request UNODA through the UNRC PD, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to assist in developing an electronic firearm management database or updating their existing system.

**Timeline: project ready to submit to potential donors' consideration by the end of May 2010, in order to be presented at BMS4, 14-18 June 2010.**

## **6. Regional cooperation**

6.1 To ensure, where considered a priority, that the issue of small arms and implementation of the Programme of Action is included in the agenda of relevant regional meetings, including the FRSC.

**Timeline: on-going.**

6.2 To request UNODA through the UNRCPD, and relevant regional organisations, to assist them in organising regional meetings on the implementation of the Programme of Action that would serve as a regional forum for the exchange of experiences among national coordination bodies, for the review of regional progress made, and for the consideration of small arms-related issues of common interest.

**Timeline: Next meeting, subject to prioritisation and funding, to be organised between 1 January 2011 and 31 March 2012, in order for its outcome to be presented at UN Programme of Action Review Conference, July 2012.**

## **7. National reporting**

7.1 To consider to submit national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action prior to the Biennial Meeting of States (BMS) and the conferences to review progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action (Review Conferences), in accordance with the timelines proposed by, respectively, the Chair-designate and the President-designate of those forums.

**Timeline: National report for BMS due 31 January 2010. National report for RevCon due 2011/2012.**

7.2 To request, where considered a priority, UNODA through the UNRCPD to assist them in the preparation of their national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action.

**Timeline: End of October 2009.**

## **8. Participation in the global meetings on the implementation of the Programme of Action**

8.1. To request UNODA through the UNRCPD, and other relevant regional and international organisations to assist them in ensuring the participation of representatives of the national coordination bodies of the Pacific States to attend the global meetings on the implementation of the Programme of Action, namely the BMS, the Meeting of Governmental Experts and the Review Conferences.

## **9. Adoption and implementation of these Guidelines**

9.1 States will undertake to consult with relevant national stakeholders through national administrations for consideration at relevant regional forums, including the FRSC and FOC, with a view to endorsing these Guidelines.

**Timeline: Intention to endorse the Guidelines by end of May 2010.**

9.2 To request UNODA through UNRCPD, and relevant regional organisations to provide support to the full and effective implementation of these Guidelines as appropriate, in particular through the strengthening of national capacities.

**Timeline: on-going.**