



Ert tjänsteställe, handläggare

Försvarsdepartementet/MFI

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Vårt tjänsteställe, handläggare

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Vårt föregående datum

Vår föregående beteckning

Response to referral for consultation regarding experiences from UN disarmament programme

1. Background

By means of a referral for consultation (Fö2015/01364/MFI), the Government has instructed the Swedish Armed Forces to report on their experiences from contributions within the framework of the UN *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* (PoA), and specifically to report on their view of the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of financial and technical assistance. The Armed Forces are to limit their views to projects they have participated in since 2001.

2. Consultation response

The Swedish Armed Forces' involvement in the PoA mainly consisted of operations in three countries: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldavia and Kenya. The common denominator in all countries was the need for knowledge and capacity building in the area of *Small Arms and Light Weapons* and *conventional ammunition* (SALW/CA), and also regarding *Physical Security and Stockpile Management* (PSSM). Capacity-building of this kind involves training the respective countries' armed forces and providing them with knowledge on international regulations for safer management and stockpiling of SALW/CA. In this context, the Armed Forces have mainly focused on providing training in the area of ammunition

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and ammunition technology. The Swedish *EOD and Demining Centre* (SWEDEC) provides the Armed Forces with unique and internationally sought-after competence specifically in the area of ammunition technology. In this context, however, it should be pointed out that the Swedish Armed Forces are much too small an actor to take action on their own in various SALW projects, which is why international cooperation must be sought for the different projects.

It is the Government that, via government decisions, determines the countries to which the Armed Forces are to provide support. The SALW/CA activities are often carried out within the framework of the Armed Forces' security sector reform (SSR) activities.

The activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been conducted since 2012–2013 and have mainly encompassed training measures aimed at strengthening the Bosnian army's capacity regarding management and stockpiling of ammunition. The Armed Forces have also produced an ammunition technology manual for the Bosnian army. The manual was intended to serve as educational material and reference literature for the Bosnian army's internal training courses. In 2015, the Swedish Armed Forces, together with its Bosnian counterpart, worked to update and maintain the manual's relevance and applicability. The overall experiences of the Armed Forces' activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina have generally been very positive. The Bosnian army has displayed a high degree of professionalism in relation to the project as a whole, as well as the individual training modules. The Swedish contribution of an ammunition technology manual is a concrete example of an activity that aims to strengthen the capabilities of the Bosnian army. The country-specific work carried out by the Armed Forces also tangibly strengthens implementation of the PoA.

Since 2014, the Swedish Armed Forces have conducted activities in Moldavia that to a great extent are similar to the activities conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2015, the Armed Forces, together with the Moldovan army, compiled and produced an ammunition technology manual modelled on the Bosnian version. Just as in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the manual is intended to serve as educational and reference material for the Moldovan army's internal training courses. In addition, the manual helps strengthen the country's capacity regarding ammunition management in the broader sense of the term. Also as far as Moldavia is concerned, the Swedish Armed Forces have worked to tangibly strengthen implementation of the PoA.

The activities that the Swedish Armed Forces conducted within the framework of the *International Peace Support Training Centre* (IPSTC) in Kenya were intended to strengthen the participating nations' competence and capacity in the area of ammunition management. The work was carried out during a shorter period in 2014 and has not led to any renewed involvement. Regardless of the project's relative importance, the Armed Forces consider that this involvement has helped strengthen implementation of the PoA.

Based on government decisions for SSR activities, the Armed Forces assess the conditions for, and capacity and appropriateness of, implementation of SALW/CA activities. The following are included in the evaluation:

Initial high-level analysis

- The importance of stability and security is a primary factor when evaluating both the region and the project country.
- An assessment of the conditions for stabilisation and restoration of civil society in a post-conflict context.
- The prospects of handing institutional powers back to the project country through capacity-building.
- The prospects of controlling illicit sale/export of SALW constitute the fundamental requirements for common security. An understanding that uncontrolled, illicit sale/export of SALW and conventional ammunition not only risks the international cooperation but also the project country's prospects for economic and social reconstruction.
- Sub-standard stockpiling of ammunition and inadequate surveillance of the ammunition's physical status not only risks the safety of personnel but also that of the surrounding civilian population.
- *Physical Security and Stockpile Management* (PSSM) cannot be seen as individual occurrences; they must be placed in a larger context.

Initiation of the project

- Initially, a technical evaluation of the project country's capacity and educational needs is carried out.
- It is important to achieve high-level cooperation and project coordination in all aspects with the project country.
- An assessment is made of the project country's normative/legislative and structural/political levels.
- Overall/comprehensive view and long-term approach in the project.

Project planning phase

- Module-specific training that can be conducted at/within several levels (Mil Pol/Log Org./ Pers).
- Phase-specific project management with clear objectives.
- Full integration of all the project country's organisational levels.
- Coordination with other projects and project actors (other states).
- Continuous supervision of the module-specific training so as to always be in line with the project country's needs and expectations.
- The projects are run under the *Train the Trainers* concept. The aim is to create national ownership of the entire training process.

Assuming that an overall analysis is conducted in accordance with the high-level analysis matrix and that the project is subsequently run in accordance with the initiation and project phases, the prospects of achieving the objectives of adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of technical assistance are good. Continuous project evaluation is carried out on a regular basis in cooperation with the other project countries for each SALW project.

3. Decision

A decision on this matter was taken by Filip Haugland.

Roger Lundholm (INSS J9 RUST) and Susanne Norén took part in the final preparations, the latter as rapporteur.

[signature]

Tjfc LEDS INRI
IR

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