United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

...strengthening Peace and Security through Disarmament

The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1986 in Lomé, Togo through resolution 40/151 G.

UNREC, as a Regional Centre of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for initiatives and other practical efforts of Member States of Africa towards the realization of measures of peace, arms control and disarmament. UNREC assists African Member States in their efforts to effectively implement their obligations under in various disarmament, nonproliferation, arms regulation and confidence-building instruments and treaties and to reform their defence and security forces including through disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR).

The Centre supports African States, the African Union, and subregional organisations by strengthening their capacity and providing them with the technical, legal and substantive assistance necessary to achieve sustainable peace and security in pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in compliance with UN Secretary General’s Disarmament Agenda.

CURRENT PROJECTS AND RECENT UNREC ACTIVITIES

- **UNREC** is assisting six States (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria) in the Sahel region to prevent the diversion and illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons (SALW) and ammunition by improving their physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) procedures. More information on the PSSM project is available [here](#).
- **UNREC** is implementing a project entitled “Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020: Capacity Building in Central Africa”. This project aims to strengthen the capacity of Central African States to effectively implement the Kinshasa Convention and thereby better manage small arms and light weapons (SALW) and combat the illicit trafficking of SALW. The project provides technical and legal capacity-building, delivered through a series of training workshops and technical guides.
- **UNREC** is also implementing a project to support the Governments of the Republics of Togo and Madagascar in their efforts in arms marking, rehabilitation of depots and destruction of obsolete weapons and ammunition. In addition to promoting the achievement of Target 16.4 of the SDGs, which calls for the reduction of illicit arms flow, this project will also contribute towards the attainment of the African Union’s vision of “Silencing the Guns by 2020” as foreseen in its Agenda 2063.
- **UNREC** is implementing a project to provide support to States in the African regions to participate in the high level fissile material cut-off treaty expert preparatory group consultative process. The project aims at providing knowledge and information on issues relevant to banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices through a series of workshops.

- Joint Pilot Training on weapons and ammunition management for practitioners in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) (Togo, June 2018)
- Training-of-Trainers Workshops on Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for the Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) of Weapons and Ammunition (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Nigeria January to October 2018)
- Workshop on experimental technologies in Physical Security and Stockpile Management (Burkina Faso, August 2018)
- Workshop on the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty ATT and Discussions on SSR in Madagascar (Madagascar, September 2018)
- National Workshop On Implementing Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (Madagascar, September 2018)
- Launching of the “Silencing the Guns by 2020” Project N’Djamena, (Chad, December 2018)
CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Technical assistance and training on combating the illicit trafficking of SALW
- Specialized support to national, sub-regional and regional entities in developing policies, action plans, legislation and strategies
- Assistance in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR) activities: training and capacity building projects, policy advice, assistance in legal and institutional review and standard setting
- Technical support in the destruction of SALW and ammunition
- Database and software development for arms control and the trade of conventional weapons
- Support in the ratification and implementation of international and regional disarmament and arms control instruments, including the Arms Trade Treaty
- Support the implementation of peace and disarmament measures within UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1540 (2004), 2117 (2013) and 2178 (2014)

Partners

As the sole UN regional entity mandated to address disarmament issues in Africa, UNREC cooperates with national entities, regional and subregional organizations, the United Nations system and civil society organizations. UNREC’s projects are funded through voluntary contributions from Member States and other donors.

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

- Organizing seminars, workshops and meetings to provide a platform for Member States to share experience on various disarmament issues in Africa
- Awareness raising, promotion and implementation of international disarmament instruments
- Disarmament education in cooperation with universities and research institutions
- Promoting continued mainstreaming of gender and the involvement of women in all activities
- Strengthening national and regional capacities in peace and disarmament through volunteerism

IDENTIFYING NEEDS AND RESEARCH

- Conducting baseline assessments on SALW challenges and control issues
- Assessing needs for weapon and ammunition stockpile management
- Researching illicit arms trafficking patterns and practices and illegal manufacturing

DONORS

[List of donor logos]

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