High-level Partnership Meeting with the Regional Centre on Small Arms in the African Great Lakes region and the Horn of Africa (RECSA), 22-23 January 2019, Lomé, Togo

A delegation from RECSA led by Executive Secretary Lt. Gen. Badreldin Elamin Abdelgadir visited UNREC Headquarters. The focus of the consultations was to revitalize the Memorandum of Understanding signed between UNREC and RECSA in 2009 and to agree on a Road Map to strengthen collaboration between the two organizations.

The parties agreed to continue developing and implementing programs, projects and initiatives under their respective mandates based on their comparative advantages in relation to peace, disarmament, arms control and non-proliferation. For more information: www.goo.gl/vHGKjF


This capacity-building workshop was organized by the Togolese Government, in collaboration with the, the 1540 Committee, the World Customs Organization and UNREC for actors involved in the implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004).

The event, funded by the European Union, was attended by twenty-five (25) delegates from various technical services involved in the fight against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction in Togo.

During this workshop, participants were briefed on the interrelated relationship between Resolution 1540 (2004) and export controls. They analyzed the progress made by Togo in the implementation of its national action plan and adopted a "roadmap" on how partners such as the United Nations Office against Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Customs Organization (WCO) and the Organization for the prohibition of chemical weapons (OPCW) will commit to provide assistance to Togo in the coming years.
UNREC UPDATE

ECCAS, UNOCA and UNREC launched a joint project for the implementation of the Kinshasa Convention on Small Arms in Central Africa, 7 December 2018, N’Djamena, Chad

UNREC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) on the sidelines of the 47th ministerial meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security questions in Central Africa (UNSAC). The three partners formally launched the project “Supporting African States towards the Vision of ‘Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020’: Capacity-Building in Central Africa.”

UNREC also updated the representatives of all 11 Central African Member States on the work of UNREC and detailed the project components and milestones. For more information: www.goo.gl/cAjx3h

National Workshop on the implementation of the Arms Trade Treaty, 20–23 November 2018, Antananarivo, Madagascar

The government of Madagascar in collaboration with the ATT Secretariat and UNREC held a national workshop on the appropriation of the ATT issues for the Malagasy National Authorities, the Private Sector and the Civil Society. About 70 participants representing the Public Sector as well as Civil Society stakeholders took part in this workshop. UNREC detailed the history, content and ratification status of the ATT; explained the synergy and complementarity between the ATT and other international and regional instruments; and introduced the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund.

Regional evaluation Conference on the activities of the Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) project in the Sahel Region, 20 – 22 November 2018, Dakar, Senegal

Organized by UNREC, the aim of the Conference was to report on achievement and recommendations to consolidate the legacy of the project. The Conference was also the opportunity for beneficiary countries to discuss a common PSSM strategy/synergy of actions at regional level. Funded by the European Union, The project aims to assist six States in the Sahel region (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Nigeria) to prevent the diversion and trafficking in Small Arms and Light Weapons and their ammunition.

In consultation with national authorities and with support from various technical partners, the project provided assistance to carry out the rehabilitation of weapons and ammunition stock sites, build capacity by developing standard operating procedures adapted to the context of each beneficiary country and train technicians who will in turn train the personnel in charge of the physical management of government stocks.
Seventh EU Non-Proliferation and Disarmament Conference, 17-19 December 2018, Brussels

Organized by the EU Non-Proliferation Consortium, the seminar brought together foreign policy institutions and European research centres to encourage political and security-related dialogue.

UNREC’s Director attended the meeting and made a presentation on the Centre’s role in regulating arms trade in Africa.

For more information: www.nonproliferation.eu

6th High-Level Seminar on Peace and Security in Africa, 13-14 December, Nairobi, Kenya

The meeting aimed at assisting incoming African member states in the UN Security Council in getting ready to address peace and security issues.

The United Nations were represented by the United Nations Office at Nairobi Executive Director and UNREC Director.

For more information: www.goo.gl/esYDu1

AU/UNODA Universalization Workshop on the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC), 11 – 12 December 2018, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

Co-organized by The African Union (AU) and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), the workshop was intended for States that are not party to the treaty in Africa namely (Chad, Comoros, Egypt, Eritrea, Namibia and Tanzania).

UNREC made a presentation on its efforts to support the implementation of the BWC in Africa and synergies between the BWC and Resolution 1540. The presentation highlighted the work carried out by UNREC to assist AU Member States to implement Resolution 1540 and the BWC.

SARCOM-BICC Institutional Learning and Development Workshop, 09 – 10 December 2018, Khartoum, Sudan

UNREC deputy Director attended the Institutional Development Workshop which was organized by the Sub-Regional Small Arms Control Mechanism (SARCOM) with support from the Bonn International Center for Conversion (BICC).
Equatorial Guinea National Round Table on UNSC Resolution 1540(2004), 6 – 7 December 2018, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea

This roundtable aimed at developing a better understanding of UN Security Council Resolution 1540(2004) among relevant national authorities, in order for them to take necessary steps and prepare the second national report to be submitted.

UNREC participated in this workshop and highlighted the work carried out by UNREC to assist AU Member States to implement Resolution 1540.

Capacity-building Workshop for National Commissions on SALW in the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) sub-region, 27 – 29 November 2018, Lomé, Togo

The Workshop brought together representatives from National Commissions on SALW (NatComs) in the UEMOA Member States as a means of encouraging inter-States cooperation and develop a roadmap in the fight against the illicit proliferation of SALW.

UNREC provided logistics support and technical expertise on arms control issues, and shared its experience in developing and providing training courses on identification of weapons, the use of International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) assessment tools.

Africa Security Symposium for West, North and Central Africa, 8-9 November 2018, Dakar, Senegal

Tailored to the needs of the region, this event hosted the world’s leading security organizations and private stakeholders, working toward establishing long-term security and peace across the African continent.

UNREC contributed to a panel discussion on tackling the proliferation of illicit SALW at the borders to support arms control efforts in cross border contexts; including physical security and stockpile management and gender perspectives in arms control. UNREC also familiarized the participants with relevant international instruments: SALW tracing process and related components; and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for the physical security and stockpile management (PSSM) of weapons, database management and legislation related to arms control. For more information:

www.grvglobal.com/WASEC/2018-Brochure

UNREC, in the framework of its partnership with the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) participated in the preparation and implementation three UNDESA seminars in Togo, Burkina Faso and Côte d’Ivoire on “Youth Peace and Security in the context of the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development.” Participants were trained on the issues of disarmament, peace education and prevention of politically and socially generated youth violence.

National Report Drafting Workshop in support of the implementation of the Security Council Resolution 1540, 17-19 October, Bamako, Mali

The workshop was organized by the group of the Experts of the 1540 in collaboration with UNREC. The objective of the workshop was to facilitate the effective implementation of Resolution 1540(2004) by all stakeholders in Mali and to help the Government draft its national report.

Workshop on Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) Universalization for Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Member States, 3-4 October 2018, Djibouti

The objectives of the meeting were among others to engage IGAD Member States not Party to the BWC to join the Convention, to discuss the rights, opportunities and obligations of BWC States Parties and to share national experiences from States Parties. UNREC made a presentation on its efforts to support the implementation of the BWC in Africa and synergies between the BWC and Resolution 1540(2004). The presentation also highlighted the work done by UNREC to assist AU Member States to implement Resolution 1540 and the BWC, the Sustainable Development Goals and the new UN Secretary General’s disarmament Agenda.

https://www.un.org/disarmament/proposals-for-funding/
High Representative Nakamitsu’s article on “Responsible Innovation for a New Era in Science and Technology”

https://unchronicle.un.org/article/responsible-innovation-new-era-science-and-technology-

UNIDIR’s Cyber Policy Portal

Introducing UNIDIR’s Cyber Policy Portal. An interactive “at a glance” tool for policy-makers and experts that provides critical information in the cybersecurity policy arena. On one site, users can access concise yet comprehensive cybersecurity policy profiles of all 193 UN Member States, as well as regional and international organizations - with all data drawn from open source and voluntarily-submitted material.

For more information on any aspect related to the UNREC Focus, please contact mail(at)unrec.org UNREC TEL : (228) 22-53-50-00 www.unrec.org