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INFORMATION

From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Working Party on Non-Proliferation
Subject:	PSSM In Sahel Project 15 – 17 November 2016 NIGERIA - Draft Report Of a 3 Day National Consultation On PSSM Procedures And For The Identification Of Pilot Sites Organised By United Nations Regional Center For Peace And Disarmament In Africa (UNREC) In Collaboration With The Presidential Committee On Small Arms And Light Weapons (PRESCOM) At NAF Conference Centre, Abuja, Nigeria On 2nd-4th August 2016

DRAFT

REPORT OF A-3 DAY NATIONAL CONSULTATION ON PSSM PROCEDURES AND FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF PILOT SITES ORGANISED BY UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL CENTER FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN AFRICA (UNREC) IN COLLABORATION WITH THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS (PRESCOM) AT NAF CONFERENCE CENTRE, ABUJA, NIGERIA ON 2ND – 4TH AUGUST, 2016

Introduction

The 3-Day National Consultation on Physical and Stockpile Management (PSSM) Procedures and for the Identification of Pilot Sites was organized by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) in collaboration with the Presidential Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons (PRESCOM) in Abuja on 2nd – 4th August, 2016. The National Consultation in Nigeria is in continuation of the implementation of PSSM Project in the Sahel initiated by UNREC and the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) with the support of the European Union (EU). The overall objective of the PSSM project in the Sahel is to contribute to the security and stability in the Sahel by providing assistance to targeted states (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Nigeria) in preventing the diversion of, and the illicit trafficking in, government-owned SALW and ammunition by improving their physical security and stockpile management. Specifically, it aims at ensuring adequate legislation and the provision of standard operating procedure for PSSM in targeted nations' arsenal. This workshop is the fourth in the series designed to take place in the project's beneficiary countries and had been held in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; Niamey, Niger and

N'djamena, Chad and Mali following the successful conference organized by UNREC in Lome, Togo in March, 2016.

2. The components of the PSSM Project in the Sahel are: Conference on PSSM in the Sahel for experience and knowledge sharing and generating necessary political buy-in for the enhancement of PSSM procedures; Review of legislative and administrative procedures in consultations on PSSM; Physical security and Stockpile Management; and lastly the setting of national standards in accordance with international best practice standards. It would equally entail identifying and rehabilitating or building three storage facilities in each of the benefiting countries.

Opening Session

3. The National Consultation was declared open by the Representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who applauded the initiative and noted the implications of the proliferation of small arms and light weapons on human security, especially in the delivery of the dividends of democratic governance. Furthermore, he emphasized government's acknowledgment of the direct linkages between SALW proliferation and the protracted security threats in the country, and assured that the outcome of the consultation would enrich its intervention programmes.

4. Welcome remarks were delivered by the Chairman of PRESCOM, Amb. E.E. Imohe; the Director of UNREC, Ms. Olatokunbo Ige, the Resident of UN Systems in Nigeria, Ms

Jean Gough and the Representative of European Union (EU) in Nigeria. The welcome remarks underscored the need to reduce diversion, loss and leakages of SALWs from national stockpile to non-state actors through a credible national framework of PSSM, which will require effective coordination and legislation mechanism. The remarks further noted that successful implementation of the PSSM project would depend on the level of stakeholders' commitments taking into cognizance the national security concerns.

Attendance

5. The National Consultation was attended by the Ministries of Defence, Justice, Interior and Foreign Affairs, National Judicial Council, Office of the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Office of the National Security Adviser, National Intelligence Agency, Nigerian Army, Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Immigration Service, Department of State Security, National Assembly, European Union, UN-Nigeria, UNREC, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), PRESCOM, Mines Advisory Group (MAG), West African Action Network on Small Arms (WAANSA-Nigeria) and the media.

Technical Session

4. The following presentations were made and discussed, namely:
- i) Presentation of the PSSM Project in the Sahel: Objectives and the Current Implication Status;

- ii) Physical Security and Stockpile Management of SALW and their Ammunition: International and Sub-regional Legal Instruments
- iii) Presentations by National Authorities (PRESCOM, Security and Law Enforcement Agencies, WAANSA, and the National Assembly)
- iv) SALW PSSM: International Standards and Guidelines
- v) National PSSM Procedures

Furthermore, there were two group discussions that centred on the legislation and national standard operating procedures on PSSM in line with international best practices.

Physical Storage Facilities Visits and Meetings

The participants undertook a visitation to the storage facility for SALWs of the Nigeria Immigration Service at the headquarters, Abuja. The team was received by the Comptroller-General of Immigration, CGIBabadede, who welcomed them and expressed appreciation on the choice of Immigration Service for the physical storage facility visitation. He commended the PSSM initiative, and highlighted the need to ensure that the project is translated into practical and tangible actions. It was further noted that the Service has challenges of PSSM of SALWs, and the engagement would help to enhance its capacity. The Team was shown round the storage facility located within the Headquarter Office Complex.

The organizers of the programme appreciated the reception and assured that the PSSM Project in the Sahel is a practical steps toward assisting countries to efficiently and effectively manage their stockpiles. They agreed that the Immigration Service would get one of the three pilot storage facilities earmarked for Nigeria. Based on the above, MAG promised to undertake another visit to the Service to conduct technical assessment and provide detail information on the proposed pilot storage facility. Equally, PRESCOM assured its commitment to provide all the necessary coordination and assistance for the project.

Observations

5. The participants raised the following observations, that
- a) The prevalence of SALW proliferation poses challenge to physical and human security, which continued to threaten the attainment of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
 - b) The expansive nature of the borders as well as the challenges of border security management are factors inhibiting effective PSSM;
 - c) The inefficient physical security and stockpile management of SALWs provides a source for the diversion, leakage and loss of SALWs to the non-states actors such as violent extremist groups;
 - d) Inadequate legal, regulatory and institutional framework hinders efficient and effective PSSM of SALWs;
 - e) Absence of a comprehensive national database, manual marking and record-keeping of SALWs engenders ineffective mechanism for PSSM, which directly encourages proliferation of SALWs;
 - f) Inefficient synergy among national and regional institutions for the development, implementation and coordination of standard operating procedures for PSSM in line with international best practices such as ISACS and IATG remains an impediment;

- g) Acknowledges ISACS as a veritable stand-alone and adaptable tool for the control of SALW proliferation. Therefore, absence of a unified national standard operating procedures is identified as a gap in PSSM ;
- h) the increasing urban encroachment has endangered site locations of armories/depots;
- i) Inadequate political support and buy-in from the relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions in institutionalizing an effective PSSM of SALWs;
- j) Inadequate funding and expertise are factors militating against effective PSSM;
- k) Local artisanal manufacturing of arms and its inadequate regulatory framework creates a gap in the efforts towards effective PSSM;
- l) Lack of harmonization of national legislations encourages cross-border movement of illegal SALWs;
- m) Insufficient intelligence and information sharing mechanism has been highlighted as a challenge in effective control of SALW proliferation;
- n) Ineffective management of unserviceable and obsolete SALWs and the ammunitions in the respective armories of security and law enforcement agencies was identified as a challenge;
- o) The inherent gap in arms procurement processes has endangered effective control of SALW proliferation;

Recommendations

6. Participants highlighted the following recommendations that:
- a) The need for efficient border security management through enhanced capacity building initiative and the provision of modern gadgets would foster effective PSSM;
 - b) The improvement of the physical security of the armories will reduce and prevent the diversion, leakage and loss of SALWs to the non-states actors;
 - c) The need to put in place adequate legal, regulatory and institutional framework for efficient and effective PSSM in line with regional and international instruments;
 - d) There is need for a comprehensive national database, proper marking and digitalized record-keeping of SALWs for effective PSSM;
 - e) Effort should be made to strengthen interagency synergy at national and regional institutions for the development, implementation and coordination of standard operating procedures for PSSM in line with international best practices such as ISACS and IATG;
 - f) There is need to improve capacities of relevant institutions on ISACS and IATG as veritable tools for PSSM and as a strategy for developing a harmonized Standard Operating Procedure;
 - g) The efforts toward proper town planning and the enforcement of restriction on the site locations of armories/depots should be encouraged;

- h) Sensitization and advocacy should be intensified to elicit political support and buy-in of relevant governmental and non-governmental institutions toward institutionalizing an effective PSSM;
- i) The need for adequate funding and expertise were highlighted as necessary elements for effective PSSM;
- j) Efforts towards legal, regulatory and operational framework for the management of Local artisanal manufacturing of arms should be put in place for effective PSSM;
- k) There is need for joint cross-border initiatives to strengthening PSSM in order to check illegal flow of SALWs;
- l) There is the urgent need for sustained management of unserviceable and obsolete SALWs and the ammunitions in the respective armories of security and law enforcement agencies through periodic destruction exercises;
- m) Sufficient intelligence and information sharing mechanism is imperative for effective control of SALW proliferation; and
- n) The need for the establishment of a National Arms Procurement body to ensure adherence to international best practices on arms procurement will strengthen effective PSSM.

Conclusion

7. The participants expressed appreciation to the organizers of the national consultation and commended the quality of the presentations and discussions. They noted that the programme enriched their knowledge and understanding of PSSM, and hoped that

the country would explore the opportunities inherent in the PSSM Project in the Sahel to ensure efficient management of the national stockpiles.

PUBLIC

DAY ONE GROUP WORK

- What are the modalities for incorporating regional and international conventions and guidelines into national legislations or administrative procedures?
- How to achieve better coordination among the different national stakeholders when it comes to incorporating international instruments in the field of PSSM or adopting relevant legislations and policies?

Group 1 Response (Unedited):

- The need for a coordinating body that would keep recording of Nigeria weapons stockpile
- The use of licenced arms dealers needs to be abolished and in its place a committee on weapons procurement be set-up
- The issue of chasing of insurgents and non-state actors into the territory of other countries where one state has adopted ECOWAS and or UN Conventions on hot pursuit and the transnational nature of the crimes
- The use of Interpol as a source of information for the supply of these SALW
- The possibility of a syndicate that supply SALW as the local manufacturing and leakage from government stockpiles cannot account for the amount of weapons in the hands of insurgents and non-state actors
- Sensitization cannot be overemphasized in the grassroots
- The need for a national database of weapons stockpiles
- Issues faced by the judiciary in execution of legislations
- Funding
- Obsolete legislations

- Lack of autonomy
- Corruption

Group 2 Response (unedited)

Strategic Plan

- Citing of armories should be in non-residential areas
- Proper markings on weapons so the history can be traced when necessary
- Efficient and qualified personnel to manage armories
- Intelligence and information sharing security agents
- Procurement of arms should be done with the provision of the ECOWAS Convention which suggest licenced arms dealers for governments
- Constant disarmament of non-state actors
- Modern methods of stockpiling weapons
- Strengthening of Defence Industry Corporation of Nigeria (DICON) for local gun production
- Robust enlightenment campaign about SALWs
- Widen the membership and scope of Regional Intelligence Fusion (RIFU) is based in Nigeria and has only five (5) member states and presently exchange intelligence on *Boko Haram* issues
- A Centralized monitoring unit comprising of members drawn from all security agencies to monitor all recovered weapons

Legislation: Stiffer penalties for private individuals who possess weapons illegally as well as security agents who lose their arms.

DAY TWO GROUP WORK

Identification of practical measures to take and recommendations to align national standards operating procedures on physical security and stockpile management with international best practices.

Group 1 Response (Unedited)

How do we comply with an international standard when some of the countries that set these standards have issues of violence being perpetrated with SALW

- The need for establishment of a national database
- Is there going to be any form of support from the EU, UN etc
- The issue of sustainability of the project
- How can we get neighbouring countries who have not ratified the Arms Trade Treaty to ratify same? By the use of bilateral agreements/by appealing to regional bodies to lean on these countries to ratify.
- The need for Nigeria to take into consideration our peculiar situation, i.e. that fact that is almost not aware of international days being earmarked for destruction of obsolete weapons (sensitization)
- Upgrading of obsolete laws
- The need to systematically adhere to obligations in international treaties
- The need for the judiciary to speed up the process of litigation of SALW related cases
- The need to widen the scope of possession of SALW to cover the supplies of the SALW to those who perpetrate crimes with them
- The possibility of expanding the number of countries that the RIFU is constituted of and to also expand its mandate to include SALW

- The issue of neighbouring states with allegiance to different economic communities with different protocols and by laws.
- The issue can be solved by the use of bilateral agreements.
- The possibility of physical and non-physical markings like that on the Nigerian currency being incorporated into the markings of weapons coming into Nigeria
- The need for an all encompassing enabling act with input from all relevant stakeholders
- The need for the PRESCOM to grow in status to a full commission under the office of the National Security Adviser
- The need to build the capacity of the institutions that are already on ground.

Group 2 Response (Unedited)

In line with the ISACS, the following recommendations were made. The PSSM was divided into two – physical security and the stockpile management

With regards to the physical security, the following recommendations were proffered:

- Record keeping: creation of digitalized national arms register
- Control: Weapons can only be assigned for operational purposes
- There should be indepth concentric circle for perimeter fencing and wall
- Use of loyal guards at the facility
- Use of proper identification of persons gaining access into restricted area
- Use of combination locks and keys
- Siting of armory should be done in a secluded area
- Government should fix a particular time, venue and date for the destruction of obsolete arms

With respect to the stockpile management, the following recommendations were made

- Manufacturing: Here, it was recommended that before arms are imported, the government should ensure that the arms are marked with unique identified marked from the manufacturer up to the end user. The marking ensures that there is no foul play from the importers. The markings should have the classical marking which when tempered with leads to the destruction of the weapon and the standard marking which is on the surface of the arms.
- Brokering: Government should ensure that the brokers are people of reputable character who should be subjected to discreet vetting and re-vetting on regular basis.
- Government should also ensure that during arms deal between the manufacturer and the end-user, a government experts should be part of such negotiations up till the signing of the arms deal.
- Transshipment: It was recommended that government informs all countries within the route of its shipment. This means that all countries that the vessel containing the arms passes through should be notified in advance to prevent the vessel from being intercepted by another country that was not informed prior to the movement
- Tracing: Only government should be allowed to carry out tracking and tracking of arms