The value of the regional approach in disarmament has been acknowledged for over three decades. The Regional Disarmament Branch (RDB), part of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in New York, oversees and coordinates the activities of the three Regional Centres, which serve as useful platforms for regional dialogue. They provide:

- Training and Capacity-Building
- Technical Assistance
- Outreach and Advocacy

The Centres assist numerous regional and international initiatives in the field of disarmament and security. They inform and educate local communities about disarmament and non-proliferation benefits, provide information about peace and security to all levels of society, and cooperate with other regional organizations. They also support civil society efforts in these areas through capacity building. The Centres continually work to support transparency, confidence-building, and sustainable peace and security.

30th Anniversary of the Regional Centres

UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC)

UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCAPD)

UN Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC)
The Centres provide technical assistance to States in **combating illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons (SALW)**, as well as improving **physical security and stockpile management (PSSM)**. Furthermore, the Centres assist States in their accession and implementation of the **Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)** and UN Programme of Action on Small Arms (PoA) by organising related workshops and training programs.

Last year, **UNLIREC** helped increase capacity of over 4,000 security and justice senior officials; assisted in improving operational standards for security and justice professionals; destroyed over 65,000 weapons and 70 metric tons of ammunition; and enhanced security of more than 140 stockpile facilities. **UNREC** supported the implementation of the UN integrated strategy for the Sahel, which resulted in marking 1,780 State-owned arms.

The Centres also promote implementation of the **gender-related disarmament resolutions** and the **International Tracing Instrument (ITI)**. In supporting national measures for nuclear disarmament and to prevent WMD proliferation to non-state actors. The Centres support strengthening States’ capacity to fully implement **UNSCR 1540 (2004)**.

In addition, **UNRCPD** organizes two major annual UN Conferences on Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Issues in the Republic of Korea and Japan, respectively, to promote dialogue and confidence building in addressing challenges in these areas. The Centres continue to develop **region-oriented research** on specific issues related to disarmament and non-proliferation.