



## **Training to Build Capacity of Central Asian States for Strengthening the Implementation of the Programme of Action on SALW**

16-17 August 2017  
Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia

From 16 to 17 August 2017, the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) and the Government of Mongolia jointly facilitated a training workshop on building capacity for implementation of the Programme of Action (PoA) to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in Central Asia. The training workshop, was made possible with financial support from the UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR). It brought together 16 participants from Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia and Tajikistan to discuss, among themselves and with representatives from the United Nations and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), progress in and challenges to the implementation of the PoA and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI).

During the workshop, participants, UN and OSCE experts exchanged information relating to: a) preparations for the third Review Conference in 2018; b) strengthening national capacity in SALW controls through the use of the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and development of National Action Plans; c) monitoring progress in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 16.4 on reducing illicit arms flows and how national reporting to the PoA could serve this purpose; and d) synergies between the PoA and other international instruments regulating arms flows, such as the Arms Trade Treaty.

Representatives shared their national practices and experiences in PoA implementation, preparation of national reports and development of National Action Plans, highlighting both opportunities and challenges. The representative from the OSCE provided an overview of OSCE's activities related to SALW control as well as presented the OSCE online reporting tool on SALW.

During the workshop, two capacity-building exercises were conducted to provide representatives with practical skills in compiling PoA reports and planning national measures to effectively control SALW. The first practical exercise utilized case studies on destruction and stockpile management of SALW. This activity required participants to use the ISACS Assessment Tool to analyse each case and design suitable National Action Plans to resolve identified concerns. The second exercise was carried out over the final day of the workshop, with participants receiving practical guidance regarding data collection, report preparation and online submission for PoA implementation.

In the post-event evaluations, participants provided positive feedback, citing satisfaction with the quality and practical elements of the workshop. Moreover, participants demonstrated a commitment to further working towards the full implementation of the UN PoA.

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