



PRESS RELEASE

UN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT SUPPORTS MYANMAR IN BUILDING NATIONAL CAPACITY TO CONTROL SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

NAY PYI TAW, MYANMAR, 23-24 FEBRUARY 2016

New York, 3 March 2016 (UN Office for Disarmament Affairs) – The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), in cooperation with the Government of Myanmar, successfully organized a capacity-building workshop on small arms and light weapons (SALW), from 23 to 24 February 2016, in Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar.

At the workshop, about 40 Government officials and experts from 16 different ministries and agencies involved in SALW control actively engaged in discussions and exchange experience and practices on SALW control with international experts and representatives from the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs. The workshop contributed to Myanmar's renewed commitment and capacity to implement the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all Its Aspects (UNPoA) and other related international instruments and guidelines, including the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS), the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI).

Participants discussed the content of a possible national plan for enhancing the capacity for SALW control, with an emphasis on the establishment of a national coordination mechanism on SALW, and expressed strong interest in possibly implementing such measures. The workshop was made possible with the financial support from the United Kingdom.

Adopted in 2001, the UNPoA plays a key role in combating illicit SALW at the global, regional and national levels. It contains provisions on, inter alia, stockpile management, marking and tracing, record-keeping, border control, national legislation, reporting skills, information sharing, national coordination and other related areas.

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