



# UNREC FOCUS



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## **NEWS**

### **UNREC Presents Reports at the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Issues in Central Africa (UNSAC)**



During the 35th Ministerial Meeting of UNSAC from 3-7 December 2012 in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, UNREC presented two reports related to peace and security issues in Central Africa during the experts meeting. Based in part on research conducted by UNLiREC, **[one of the reports](#)** covers in detail some of the specific challenges States face in identifying and stopping arms trafficking and other smuggling networks by sea. **[The other report](#)** provides an update on disarmament issues in the sub-

region, focusing on issues related to the implementation of the UN Program of Action on small arms in Central Africa.

### **UN First Committee Approves Second ATT Negotiations for March 2013**

On November 7, 2012 Members of the UN First Committee agreed to a resolution calling for a second round of negotiations on the proposed Arms Trade Treaty from 18-28 March 2013 in New York. A total of 157 States voted in favor of the resolution, including China, France, India, and the United States; eighteen States abstained from the vote. To see a copy of the resolution that was passed, **[please click here](#)**. In May and July 2012, UNREC co-organized two meetings on the ATT sponsored by the Government of Australia, which highlighted African views on the ATT, among other issues. **[For information on these meetings, please click here.](#)**

### **Parties to the Second UN Review Conference on the UNPoA Agreed to New Commitments to Tackle Illicit SALW**

From 27 August to September 7, the United Nations held the second UN Review Conference of the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) on SALW to review progress made in implementing the UNPoA and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI). The meeting concluded with a final report that included a roadmap to better implement the PoA. Among other aspects, countries agreed to ensure that licensed manufacturers apply an appropriate and reliable marking on each SALW as an integral part of the production process and to keep comprehensive and accurate records for as long as possible. **[To read the Conference report, please click here.](#)**

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## **UNREC PROJECT UPDATES**

### **Training of Defense and Security Forces Operating on the Border, 10 – 12 October 2012, Yamoussoukro, Cote d'Ivoire**



UNREC, together with National Commission on SALW of Cote d'Ivoire, organized a capacity-building workshop for 23 senior defense and security force officials on issues related to small arms control at the border. The issues covered in the training included techniques for identifying various types of SALW, related ammunition, and explosives as well as suggestions to improve border management. Expert trainers from the Regional Bureau of INTERPOL in West Africa, the National Central Bureau of INTERPOL in Abidjan, NatCom-CI, and UNREC led the trainings. The project was made possible with the financial support from

the Government of Australia. For more information, [please click here](#). See [also some selected Photos from the event](#)

### **Expert Review of Draft Research Reports Held on SALW Trafficking in Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria, 24-26 October 2012, Accra, Ghana**

Following the completion of draft reports by four national consultants researching arms trafficking of SALW among Ghana, Togo, Benin and Nigeria, UNREC and Fredriech Ebert Stiftung (FES) held a workshop to review the reports. The consultants have identified several new trends in the trafficking of SALW as well as challenges to addressing the problem. UNREC and FES plan to have final versions published early next year.

### **Training Workshop on Policing in Electoral Processes, 13 – 15 November 2012, Kara, Togo**



After running a similar workshop in Lomé between 24 and 27 September 2012, UNREC, in partnership with the Government of Togo, the UN Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), organized a second workshop for trainers to strengthen the capacities of security officials on policing in electoral processes. The training included a focus on UNREC's updated Guide for Maintaining Law and Order for Security Forces During

Elections . Fifty officers mainly from the Togolese police and the gendarmerie were trained at the workshop. The project was funded by the European Union through UNDP Togo. For more information, [please click here](#). See [also some selected photos from the event](#)

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>Item</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>
<b>First Part of the 2013 session of the Conference on Disarmament</b>	21 January – 29 March 2013	Geneva, Switzerland
<b>20th AU Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments</b>	27 – 28 January 2013	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
<b>Final United Nations Conference on the Arms</b>	18 – 28 March 2013	New York, USA

## PAST EVENTS

**28 – 29 September 2012, “Meeting on the African Union (AU) Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Capacity Programme (DDRCP)” – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

The meeting sought to validate the proposed project document and funding proposal for the new AU Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Capacity Programme (AU DDRCP). This new project document and funding proposal was created to expand the program in three main ways: institutionalize AU DDR Capacities, establish an AU DDR Resource and Research Centre, and enhance AU engagement and assistance to DDR activities of Member States. For more information, [click here](#).

**24 – 30 October 2012 “Global Disarmament Week” – Lomé, Togo.**



Concluding this year’s disarmament week celebration, UNREC, hosted a cultural event in collaboration with RAJOSEP, AMJP and le Centre Culturel Odaye, which focused on the theme ‘La culture, outil au service de la paix et du désarmement’. The goal was to raise public awareness on the issue of disarmament, and the event brought together major stakeholders to celebrate the week. .

[For more information please click here](#)

**30 – 31 October 2012 “Monitoring Illicit Arms Flows: Supporting Actors in Peacekeeping Environments” – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.**

UNREC participated in European Union-funded expert seminar hosted by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), which brought together some of the world’s leading practitioners in the fields of SALW, sanctions monitoring and AU and UN peacekeeping missions. The bulk of the discussion was on ways to improve monitoring of illicit weapons flows, new trends resulting from the latest ammunition tracing efforts and the role of several African countries in supplying illicit arms to conflict ridden areas. [Read more.](#)

**5 – 6 November 2012 “Sixth African Union-Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Meeting” – Libreville, Gabon.**



The African Union Steering Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons recently held its Sixth meeting hosted by the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS). During the meeting, the committee decided to enlarge its mandate to tackle Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) activities on the continent. [Read more.](#)

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## **UNODA / UNREC INFORMATION NOTE**

### **Departure of UNREC Director**

UNREC’s staff wishes its previous Director, Dr. Ivor Fung, success in his new appointment in Geneva, Switzerland with the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs. We are most grateful for his leadership and wish him the best in all his endeavors. \_



## **NEW UN PUBLICATIONS**

### **Training Tools on Maintaining Order in the Election Period Produced by UNREC.**



Based on a previous a guide UNREC developed in 2007, this pocket guide book provides security services with sixteen key rules and responsibilities to follow during periods of elections. It is based on the UN Basic Principle of the use of Force and Firearms by law enforcement officials, the UN Code of Conduct of Law Enforcement Officials and the UN guidelines on Police Support to the Provision of Security in Electoral Processes. To see UNREC’s interactive video about this guide, [please click here](#)



## **United Nations promotes women as forces of change in the combat against illicit trafficking in Small Arms in Latin America and the Caribbean.**

The UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) launched its publication "Forces of Change: Profiles of Latin American and Caribbean Women in Combating Illicit Trafficking in Small Arms". The publication features and celebrates the experiences and skills of a diverse group of 58 women working in the field of small arms control in the region. [Read more](#)



## **67th Session of the United Nations General Assembly 1 November, 2012**

Compilation of United Nations General Assembly First Committee statements, press releases, Secretary-General reports and side events. [Please click here](#)

### **CONTACT**

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