

Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in All Its Aspects (PoA)

Africa

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PoA on SALW

Adopted in 2001, the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) contains agreed measures to be undertaken at the national, regional and global level, to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons. It is a comprehensive instrument, which covers a broad range of measures, including :

- legislation on various aspects of the production, transfer and diversion of SALW;
- marking, record-keeping, and tracing;
- stockpile management and security;
- surplus identification and disposal;
- international transfers;
- brokering;
- public awareness;
- disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes;
- And international cooperation and assistance to facilitate the implementation of the PoA.

177 Member States submitted national reports since 2001

PoA on SALW

- **To ensure full and effective implementation of the PoA, a vigorous follow up process was established, which comprises review conferences and biennial meetings of States (BMS)**
- **Pursuant to the provisions of the PoA, the General Assembly adopted the International Instrument to enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (the International Tracing Instrument or ITI)**
- **Member States have also agreed to regularly report on PoA implementation**
- **In addition, the UN, through its coordinating mechanism on small arms, has developed the Modular Small Arms Control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC)**

Relevance of PoA on SALW

- The PoA remains a comprehensive instrument for achieving global and regional security as it includes concrete measures for improved national legislation and cooperation amongst states.
- Though the PoA is flexible and not legally binding, over the years, it has been supplemented by other instruments and processes.
- A case in point is the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) of 2014 which contains binding commitments for State parties; the first legally-binding instrument establishing common standards for the international transfer of conventional weapons.
- The ECOWAS Convention, the Kinshasa Convention, and other legally binding regional instruments also complement and reinforce the implementation of the PoA.

Relevance of PoA on SALW

- Since its adoption in 2001, significant progress has been made in the implementation of the PoA. An increasing number of States have improved legislation related to stemming the uncontrolled proliferation of SALW, destroyed collected/seized weapons and surplus stocks, and adopted PSSM standards;
- Many States have included the PoA into their national action plans, especially given the conceptual linkage between the PoA and the 2015 SDGs;
- The PoA's linkage to the 2030 Agenda is reinforced by the provision in **paragraph 58** of the 2030 Agenda to encourage efforts by States in other fora to address challenges to the implementation of the Agenda.
- This implementation of the PoA, however, faces challenges.

Implementation Challenges of PoA on SALW

- Information sharing on defense and security can be challenging to some, which could impact collective efforts to address issues covered by the PoA
- Limited technical and financial resources hamper implementation by States and regional organizations
- The PoA does not require regional organizations to report on their implementation status, which affected submission rates
- Reporting fatigue / Administrative burden
- Overlap in reporting requirements with other instruments
- Lack of capacity / lack of national coordination

Opportunities - Benefits of reporting

- **Measures progress** and **gaps** in the PoA and ITI implementation
(incl. **baselines**; **best practices**; **trends/challenges/opportunities**)
- **Confidence-building** measure: Information exchange, transparency
- Identifies needs for **international assistance**: ensures **national ownership**
- Data collection for the **2030 Agenda** for Sustainable Development
Indicator 16.4.2 “Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments”
- Reaffirms **States’ commitment** to the PoA process (**political will**)
- Builds States’ **capacities** (national coordination)

177 Member States submitted national reports since 2001

Online Reporting Template

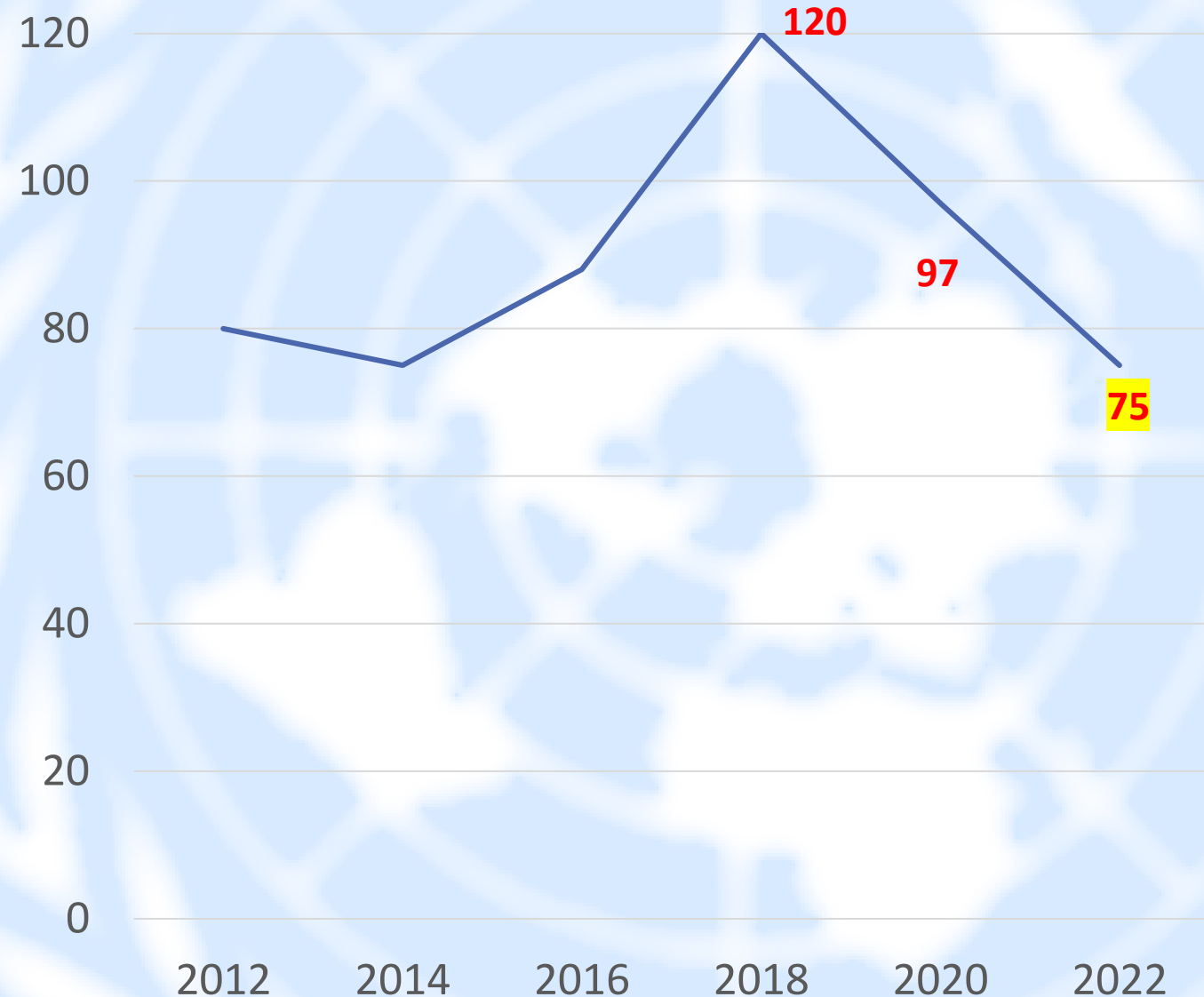
- 2022: 95% of submitted reports used reporting template
- *Maximizes **utilization*** of data / information
 - data collection and management for **SDG Target 16.4**
 - state of play / measure progress in PoA/ITI implementation
 - **Harmonization of global/regional reporting (PoA – OSCE SALW Document)**
- *Minimizes **administrative burdens*** on States
 - Simple **Yes/No** questions
 - **Previously submitted report can be updated and revised for this year's submission**
 - Available in all **six official UN languages**
- **Challenges:**
 - Internet connection / Credentials (i.e. password issuance) – ODA helpdesk

National Reporting Trends

➤ Worrying decrease

- 177 States: 2002 - 2020 total
- **120 States**: 2018
- **97 States**: 2020/21
- **75 States**: 2022

Submission of National Reports



2022 PoA/ITI national reports

75 States as of 20 June

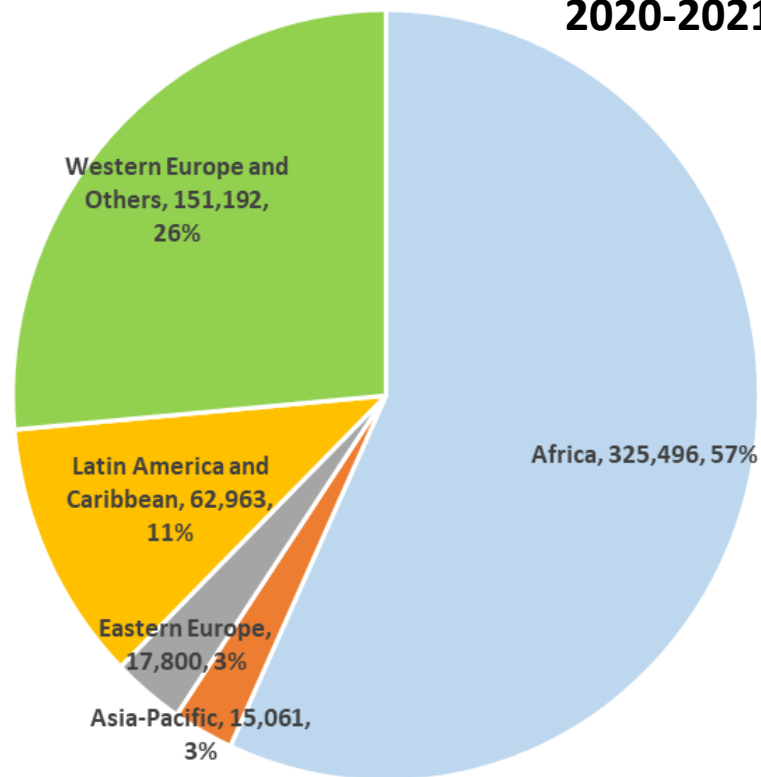
Africa (24/54)		Asia / Pacific (16/53)		Eastern Europe (12/23)	Latin America / the Caribbean (9/33)	Western Europe / Other States (14/29)
Benin	Mali	Bangladesh	Maldives	Albania	Argentina	Australia
Burkina Faso	Mauritius	China	Philippines	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Bolivia	Belgium
Burundi	Morocco	India	Qatar	Czech Republic	Colombia	Canada
Central African Republic	Niger	Iran	Republic of Korea	Estonia	El Salvador	Denmark
Cote d'Ivoire	Nigeria	Iraq	Saudi Arabia	Latvia	Grenada	Finland
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Rwanda	Japan	Thailand	Lithuania	Guatemala	France
Egypt	Sierra Leone	Kazakhstan	Turkey	Montenegro	Honduras	Germany
Gambia	South Sudan	Malaysia	United Arab Emirates	Poland	Nicaragua	Greece
Ghana	Sudan			Russian Federation	Peru	Ireland
Guinea	Tanzania			Serbia		Israel
Kenya	Togo			Slovakia		New Zealand
Madagascar	Uganda			Slovenia		Sweden
						Switzerland
						United Kingdom



Weapons destroyed by region (2020 – 2021)

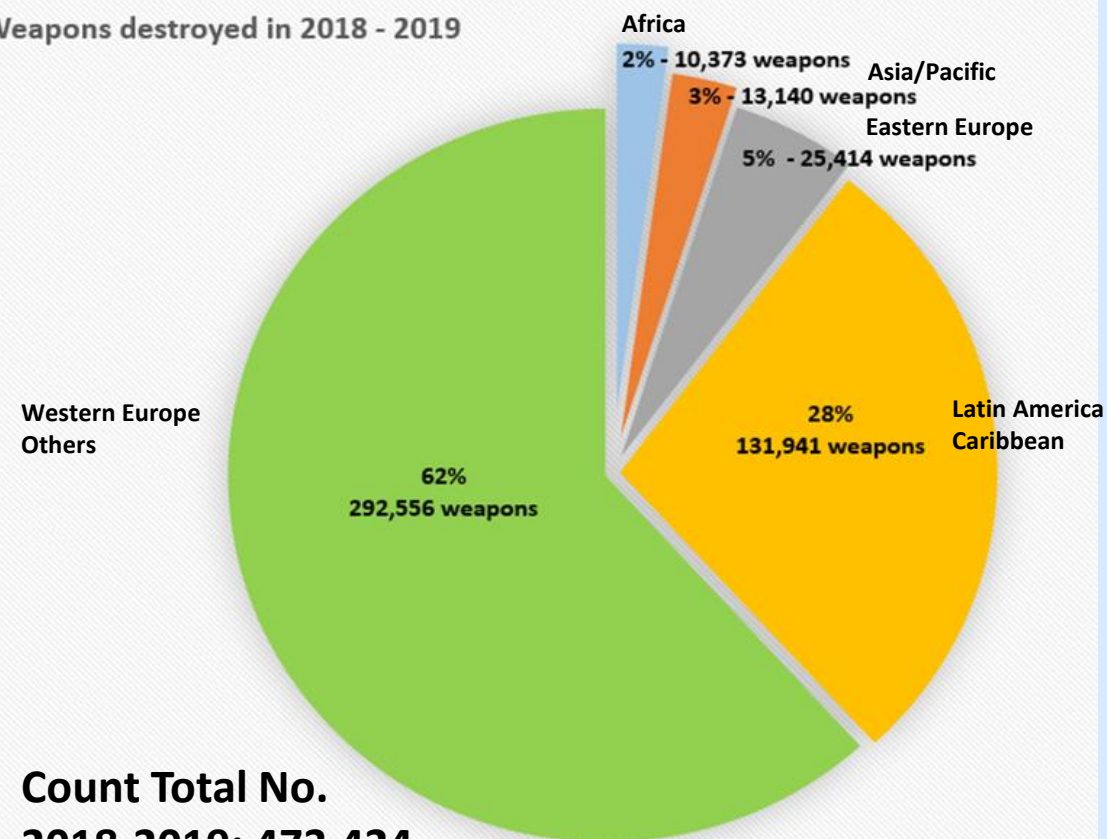
Weapons destroyed in 2020-2021

Count Total No.
2020-2021: 572,512



Weapons destroyed in 2018 - 2019

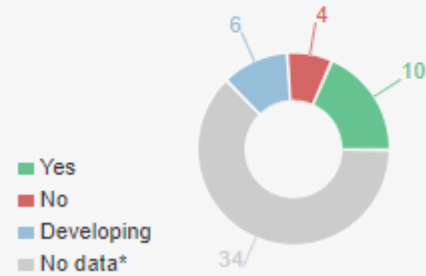
Count Total No.
2018-2019: 473,424



Sample Areas

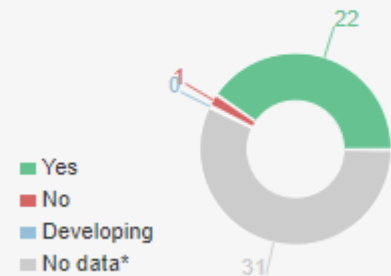
National Action Plan on SALW

African Group



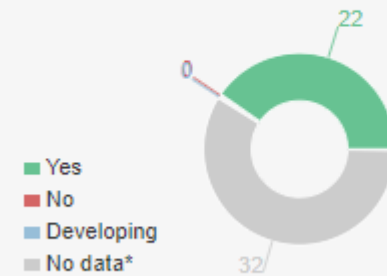
National coordination agency

African Group



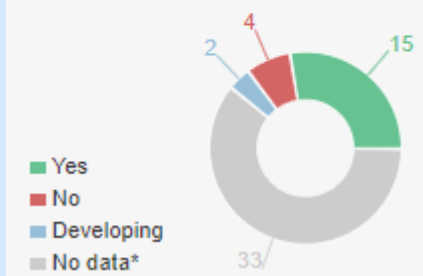
National point of contact for PoA and ITI

African Group



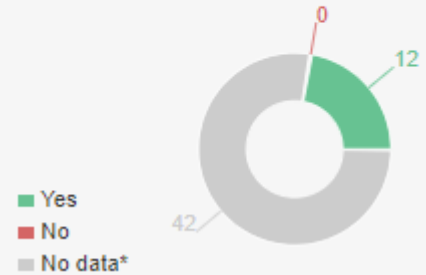
National Targets to implement PoA and ITI

African Group



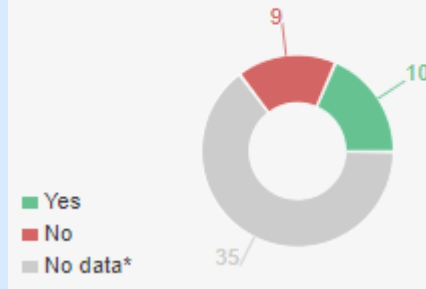
Regulation of manufacturing through licensing

African Group



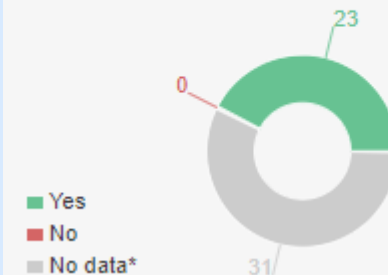
Diversion related to international transfers

African Group



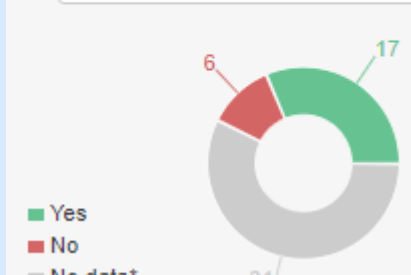
Regulation of transfer of SALW

African Group



Marking at time of import

African Group



PoA report Section 9: International cooperation & assistance

9 AREAS OF COOPERATION AND ASSISTANCE

Section 9: International cooperation & assistance

Sources	Question	Yes	No
PoA III.3, 6 BMS7 Outcome Para 53, 113	Assistance requested/received/provided		
	9.1. During the reporting period, in addition to the assistance requested/received mentioned in the Sections 2-8 above, has your country requested / received / provided assistance to implement the PoA and ITI? [if no, go to 10.1]	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
	9.1.1 If so, in what areas (check relevant boxes)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

- a. Establishing/designating National Coordination Agency/National Point of Contact and National Action Plan
- b. Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR)
- c. Capacity-building and training on SAWL issues
- d. Law enforcement
- e. Customs and borders
- f. Research
- g. Gender considerations / women, men, girls and boys
- h. Awareness-raising
- i. Organized crime, drug trafficking and terrorism
- j. Other

Additional information –Key challenges and opportunities

10.3 Any further comments on PoA and ITI, including key challenges and opportunities relating to the implementation of PoA and ITI, and national laws, regulations and administrative procedures?

a) Details:



Please upload/attach any additional files, possibly related to:

BMS7-51

- **views on the implementation of the PoA and ITI**
- **a national action plan**
- **project proposals**
- **a list of projects implemented and financial contributions provided**

BMS7-53

- **efforts to build confidence and to promote transparency**

BMS7-83

- **progress made under indicator 16.4.2**

- Practical **guidance on implementing global commitments to control small arms and light weapons**
- Based on PoA/ITI; Firearms Protocol and the ATT and complements and reinforces regional standards and guidelines
- **Objective:** UN as a whole to consistently deliver the highest quality advice on the full life-cycle of SALW



The Modular **Small-arms-control** Implementation Compendium

MOSAIC 

Good practices for safer societies.

Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC)

www.un.org/disarmament/mosaic

How does MOSAIC bring about change?



The Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium

MOSAIC

Good practices for safer societies.

- **SERIES 01 Introduction to MOSAIC**
 - Glossary
- **SERIES 02 SALW Control in Context**
 - SALW control in the context of preventing armed violence
 - SALW control in the context of Security Sector Reform
 - SALW control in the context of Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration
- **SERIES 03 Legislative and Regulatory**
 - National controls over the manufacture of SALW
 - National controls over the international transfer of SALW
 - National controls over the end-user and end-use of internationally transferred SALW
 - National regulation of civilian access to SALW
 - National coordination mechanisms on SALW control

Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC)

www.un.org/disarmament/mosaic

- **SERIES 04 Design & Management**

- Designing and implementing a National Action Plan
- Designing and implementing community safety programming
- Awareness-raising
- Monitoring, evaluation and reporting

- **SERIES 05 Operation Support**

- Conducting SALW surveys
- Stockpile management: Weapons
- Marking and recordkeeping
- Tracing illicit SALW
- Collection of illicit and unwanted SALW
- Destruction: Weapons
- Border controls and law enforcement cooperation

- **SERIES 06 Crosscutting Issues**

- Women, men and the gendered nature of SALW
- Children, adolescents, youth and SALW

Modular Small- arms-control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC)

www.un.org/disarmament/mosaic

UNREC ACTIVITIES:

PSSM PROJECT IN THE SAHEL



UNODA
UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS

UNREC ACTIVITIES:

ODA-DPO DDR/WAM Course



UNREC ACTIVITIES: MARKING AND REGISTRATION OF SALW IN THE WEST-AFRICAN SUB-REGION

- In recent years, UNREC has provided technical support to the Governments of Burkina Faso, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Madagascar and Togo for quick and reliable tracing of illicit SALW.



Merci de votre aimable attention !



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UNODA

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
DISARMAMENT AFFAIRS