

Framing Key Issues and Informing Processes Pertinent to Management of Conventional Ammunition

Third Thematic Seminar Final Agenda

Monday 20 May 09:00-18:00h
Conference Room 6 United Nations Headquarters, New York

The United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) is organizing a series of informal thematic seminars which aim to promote knowledge and facilitate dialogue among States on issues relevant to the safe, secure and accountable management of conventional ammunition. The seminar series seeks to assist States in framing key issues pertinent to conventional ammunition management on which progress can be made at the national, regional and multilateral levels.

The first seminar of this series took place from 26 – 27 November 2018¹ and the second seminar on 5 March 2019,² both in Geneva. Based on the findings of the first two seminars, the upcoming seminar will:

1. Promote knowledge and facilitate dialogue on a select number of key issues, such as frameworks and mechanisms to prevent and mitigate the risk of ammunition diversion such as pre-transfer risk assessments; physical security and stockpile management; monitoring and diagnostic activities; means and methods to improve monitoring and reporting relevant to conventional ammunition; ways to strengthen the uptake and use of existing guidance and tools; as well as approaches to strengthen national ownership and sustainable ammunition management programming, including through international cooperation and assistance; and
2. Support Member States' preparations to engage actively in forums and initiatives relevant to conventional ammunition management, including the open, informal consultations organized within the framework of resolution A/RES/72/55 on problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus.³

This seminar series is organized in cooperation with the Governments of Germany and Switzerland.

¹ Report from the first thematic seminar available here: <http://www.unidir.ch/files/publications/pdfs/key-issues-and-processes-pertinent-to-the-management-of-conventional-ammunition-en-745.pdf>

² Report from the second thematic seminar to be published on UNIDIR website in May 2019

³ <https://undocs.org/A/RES/72/55>

MONDAY 20 MAY	
09:00 – 09:30	Arrival and Registration
09:30 – 10:00	Session 1: Welcoming Remarks
	<p>Welcoming remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Himayu Shiotani, Conventional Arms Programme Lead, United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) • Mr. Marcus Bleinroth, Director of Division, Federal Foreign Office, Germany • Mr. Dominique Favre, Deputy Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Permanent Mission, Switzerland <p>Introduction to the project and tour-de-table introductions</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Session 2: Setting the Scene and Findings from Initial Thematic Seminars</p> <p>This session will set the scene and introduce the key themes and background to A/RES/72/55. Building on the findings from the first and second thematic seminars, this session will present key challenges and opportunities related to conventional ammunition management and areas that merit further examination.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What areas of conventional ammunition management require international action? 2. What are the main safety and security risks and threats associated with conventional ammunition? 3. What are the key elements for a safe, secure and accountable management of conventional ammunition? 4. What is the current status of multilateral and regional processes to support conventional ammunition management? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Steve Costner, Department of State, U.S. • Mr. Manuel Martínez Miralles, (UNIDIR)
10:30 – 11:30	<p>Session 3: Responsibility and Accountability Cycle for Safe and Secure Management of Ammunition</p> <p>Conventional ammunition management is a multifaceted undertaking that goes beyond stockpile management measures. It requires placing national and international efforts within a wider framework to encourage the safe, secure, and accountable management of conventional ammunition throughout its lifecycle, including pre-transfer risk assessments, physical security and stockpile management, and monitoring activities. This session will explore the key elements of this approach to conventional ammunition management.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does a responsible and accountable cycle for safe and secure management of ammunition entail? 2. What are the main elements to consider in relation to safety and security in a 'responsibility and accountability cycle' approach?

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. What are some of the safety and security benefits of applying an ammunition 'responsibility and accountability cycle' approach? 4. Are the existing frameworks, guidelines, and tools, adequate in addressing the safety and security risks and threats that States face today? <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. James Bevan, Conflict Armament Research (CAR)
<p>11:30 – 11:45</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:45 – 12:45</p>	<p>Session 4: Pre-transfer Risk Assessment for Safety and Security</p> <p>Effective national controls over the transfer of conventional ammunition are necessary to prevent illicit transfers. A key element to prevent diversion through the ammunition life-cycle is conducting an effective pre-transfer risk assessment. The main objective of pre-transfer risk assessments is to evaluate the security risks along the supply chain and ensure that only authorised users are in control of the ammunition. Furthermore, pre-transfer risk assessments could also serve as a preventative measure to determine and reduce risks of explosions at munition sites and during transfers. This session will explore the means and methods to conduct an effective pre-transfer risk assessment with a view to identifying essential control steps and measures at the national level. This session will consider risk indicators, roles and responsibilities, end use/r control systems, including verification and exchange of information as well as documentation.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key steps and measures required to conduct pre-transfer risk assessments? 2. What are the indicators to be considered to conduct effective pre-transfer risk assessments? 3. What sources of information should be consulted in pre-transfer risk assessments? 4. What type of assurances could be provided by the end user to prevent diversion? 5. Should guidance be developed for assisting pre-transfer risk assessments on diversion? 6. Is exchanging lessons-learned and sources of information for risk assessment procedures and verification useful? Is it feasible? 7. Would a mechanism to facilitate verification and authentication of end use/r documentation be useful? Is it feasible? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dumisani Dladla, Arms Trade Treaty Secretariat • Ms. Stela Petrovic, Department for International Agreements and Foreign Trade of Controlled Goods – Arms, Military Equipment and Dual-Use Items, Serbia
<p>12:45 - 13:45</p>	<p>Session 5: Physical Security and Stockpile Management</p> <p>The diversion of conventional ammunition to illicit markets, groups and individuals poses a serious threat to peace and security. The diversion of conventional ammunition may occur due to leakage, theft or loss from weakened stockpile management practices, among other reasons. In addition, improperly managed ammunition poses a critical risk to safety, due to unplanned explosions at munitions sites (UEMS). This session will explore challenges and opportunities to preventing and addressing security and safety related risks and threats associated with conventional ammunition in the context of physical security and stockpile management.</p>

	<p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How is conventional ammunition being diverted from stockpiles? 2. How are States and relevant stakeholders currently addressing the risks of diversion from stockpiles? 3. What are the main elements to consider in relation to stockpile safety? 4. Are the existing frameworks, guidelines, and tools, adequate in addressing the stockpile safety and security risks and threats that States face today? <p>Speaker:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Bob Seddon, (UNIDIR)
<p>13:45 - 14:30</p>	<p>Lunch Break</p>
<p>14:30 - 15:30</p>	<p>Session 6: Monitoring and Diagnostic activities</p> <p>The vast majority of illicit ammunition is legally manufactured or imported and subsequently diverted to the illicit realm. In this regard, accurately identifying the point of diversion is crucial to preventing future diversion. Systematic monitoring, tracking and reporting of illicit ammunition through the lines of supply is an essential element to the security of conventional ammunition. This session will examine the means and methods of monitoring and reporting on illicit ammunition flows, with a view to identifying key control steps and measures at the national, regional and multilateral levels.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the key elements required to enable effective monitoring, detection and reporting of illicit ammunition flows? 2. How are States and relevant stakeholders monitoring and diagnosing diversion cases? What methods and tools are currently being used? 3. What are some of the key measures to establish and enforce post-delivery controls, including verification of end users and items? 4. What coordination and information exchange mechanisms could be used to monitor diversion? What entities should be involved in such exercises? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Nils Holger Anders, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) • Mr. Marcus Vinicius Da Silva Dantas, Federal Police, Brazil
<p>15:30 - 16:30</p>	<p>Session 7: Regional Frameworks and Approaches</p>
	<p>Several regional instruments address conventional ammunition in their provisions, but they are relatively fragmented and vary in scope and application. Resolution 72/55 offers various options for States to explore sub/regional approaches to conventional ammunition management. These include frameworks for addressing the illicit trafficking of conventional ammunition, as well as the development of national and sub-regional indicators relevant to the Sustainable Development Goals in contributing to the reduction of illicit flows and preventing armed violence. This session will examine possible regional avenues and approaches to strengthen safe, secure and accountable conventional ammunition management.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the existing obligations for States related to conventional ammunition management in sub/regional instruments? 2. What processes and approaches are currently being undertaken at the regional, and sub-regional levels to ensure the safe and secure management of conventional ammunition? 3. What mechanisms at the national, regional and sub-regional level would be useful to address the illicit trafficking of ammunition? What might such a framework look like? 4. What would be needed to integrate conventional ammunition management into development frameworks such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development? 5. What are some of the conventional ammunition management indicators relevant to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at the sub-regional and regional levels? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Leonard Tettey, National Commission on SALW, Ghana • Mr. Alain Lapon, South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SEESAC)
<p>16:30 – 16:45</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>
<p>16:45 - 17:45</p>	<p>Session 8: International Cooperation and Assistance</p> <p>The International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) provide a comprehensive set of internationally developed measures to address the management of conventional ammunition stockpiles. In this respect, resolution 72/55 primarily serves to reiterate the need for international action in areas that are already identified within the IATG. Moreover, resolution 72/55 encourages the widespread use of the IATG (paras. 7 and 8). This session will consider how international cooperation and assistance could better support ammunition management operations in alignment with the IATG. More specifically, this session will look at how to facilitate effective and sustainable international cooperation and assistance to improve State and regional processes on safe and secure management of ammunition.</p> <p>Guiding questions for this session:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can international cooperation and assistance initiatives sustain efforts to encourage the uptake and use of the IATG? 2. How can States and regional organizations be supported in the development and promotion of good practices, standards, and procedures in accordance with the IATG? 3. What would be needed to effectively address ammunition management sensitization, long-term programming within national action frameworks, and the development of sustainable ammunition technical expertise? <p>Speakers:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Katherine Prizeman, United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) • Andrew Grantham, Ammunition Management Advisory Team (AMAT)
<p>17:45 - 18:00</p>	<p>Wrap-up and Next Steps</p>