REGIONAL APPROACH TO SALW CONTROL IN SOUTHEAST EUROPE

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UNIDIR AND UNODA ONLINE REGIONAL BRIEFINGS

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Mandate - Support all international and national stakeholders by strengthening national and regional capacity to control and reduce the proliferation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and thus contribute to enhanced stability, security and development in South East and Eastern Europe.

Extended Mandate - Promote the more secure management of conventional arms and ammunition stockpiles; and to mainstream gender in security consistent with UNSCR 1325
KEY AREAS OF WORK

WHAT WE DO:

SEESAC’s approach to arms control is holistic, encompassing a full spectrum of activities including:

- Cross Border Control
- Legislative and Regulatory Control
- Management of Information
- SALW Awareness Raising and Communications Strategy
- SALW Collection Programmes
- SALW Destruction Programmes
- SALW Stockpile Management Issues
- SALW Marking, Tracing and Recordkeeping
- Arms Exports Control
Outline of the Roadmap agreed by WB authorities
High Level Meeting Podgorica, 1 February 2018

Roadmap adopted
Ministers of Interior London Summit, 10 July 2018

Roadmap operationalized through Action Plans

Supported by governments of Germany and France and the EU;
Facilitated by UNDP/SEESAC
1 Vision

7 Goals

38 Overall Targets

14 Key Performance Indicators
THE WESTERN BALKANS ROADMAP GOALS

• **GOAL 1.** By 2023, ensure that arms control legislation is in place, fully harmonized with the EU regulatory framework and other related international obligations and standardized across the region.

• **GOAL 2.** By 2024, ensure that arms control policies and practices in the Western Balkans are evidence based and intelligence led.

• **GOAL 3.** By 2024, significantly reduce illicit flows of firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) into, within and beyond the Western Balkans.

• **GOAL 4.** By 2024, significantly reduce the supply, demand and misuse of firearms through increased awareness, education, outreach and advocacy.

• **GOAL 5.** By 2024, substantially decrease the estimated number of firearms in illicit possession in the Western Balkans.

• **GOAL 6.** Systematically decrease the surplus and destroy seized small arms and light weapons and ammunition.

• **GOAL 7.** Significantly decrease the risk of proliferation and diversion of firearms, ammunition and explosives.
KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

1. Number of legal frameworks on arms control throughout the Western Balkans fully harmonized with the EU legislation, the Arms Trade Treaty and the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition (The Firearms Protocol);

2. Number of evidence-based arms control policy documents, developed in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans, that are also addressing needs of men, women, boys and girls;

3. Number of cases, individuals and quantity of misused and trafficked firearms, ammunition and explosives (FAE) prosecuted and adjudicated in comparison to the number of law enforcement reports on seizures;

4. Number of cases and quantity of FAE seized inland compared to the number of cases and quantity of FAE seized at the borders;

5. Number of reported cases of FAE seized at the borders of the European Union and traced to the Western Balkans, compared to the number of FAE seized throughout the European Union and traced to or diverted from the Western Balkans;

6. Number of FAE for which export licenses were issued by the Western Balkans identified as diverted through post-shipment control procedure;

7. Firearms Focal Points established and operational in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans;

8. Number of inter-institutional cooperation cases at operational level, including investigation, prosecution and pretrial phases;

9. Number of cases of operational cooperation sourced from intelligence information including ballistic intelligence in the fight against firearms related crimes, with authorities in the region, EU member states and agencies as well as international law enforcement agencies;

10. Number of incidents involving firearms and victims affected by the misuse of firearms, disaggregated by gender and age, in each jurisdiction of the Western Balkans;

11. Number of FAE voluntarily surrendered, as well as firearms legalized or deactivated;

12. Number of reported SALW/firearms, ammunition, and explosives confiscated or surplus systematically destroyed;

13. Number of SALW/firearms and their ammunition storage facilities in line with international safety and security standards;

14. Percentage of citizens satisfaction (disaggregated by age and gender) or feeling of safety on armed violence across the Western Balkans.
COORDINATION & MONITORING FRAMEWORK

• A unique coordination and monitoring platform has been established with funding support through EU CD 2018/1788.

• Regular reports documenting the progress, challenges and needs in the Roadmap implementation, against the KPIs and its goals submitted biannually.

• Biannual local coordination meetings organized by the SALW Commissions, reviewing implementation of Roadmap Action Plans;

• Regional roadmap coordination meetings organized, taking stock of implementation of the Roadmap;

• A UN Multi Partner Trust Fund established to ensure a donor coordinated approach.
WHY A REGIONAL APPROACH:

- Ensures continued political commitment, standardization of approaches, synergy of efforts through sharing of information, knowledge and expertise.
- Ensures strong coordination and information sharing between institutions, donors and implementing partners engaged.
- Promotes confidence building, positive competition, stronger regional cooperation and transparency.
- Facilitates tackling similar operational challenges through improved cross-border cooperation.
- Ensures strong and diversified funding support.
CHALLENGES

- Political situation influencing progress and sustainability of the processes.
- Competing priorities in each jurisdiction.
- Limited absorption capacity by the national authorities.
- High turnover of staff at both policy and operational level.
- Limited institutional capacities compared to the multitude of actions and interinstitutional cooperation required.
THANK YOU!

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