



United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa

...strengthening Peace and Security through Disarmament



The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1986 in Lomé, Togo through resolution 40/151 G.



UNREC, as a regional centre of the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for initiatives and other practical efforts of Member States of Africa towards the realization of measures of peace, arms limitations and disarmament. UNREC assists African Member States in their efforts to effectively implement their obligations found in various disarmament, arms regulation and confidence-building instruments and to reform their defence and security forces. The Centre supports African States, the African Union and subregional organisations by strengthening their capacity and providing them with the technical, legal and substantive assistance necessary to achieve sustainable peace and security.



“ Strengthening Peace and Security through Disarmament in Africa ”



CURRENT AND RECENT UNREC ACTIVITIES

1. UNREC is assisting States of the Sahel to prevent the diversion of and the illicit trafficking in small arms and light weapons and ammunition by improving their physical security and stockpile management (PSSM). More information is available at http://unrec.org/default/phocadownload/UNREC/brochures/PSSM_Sahel_EN.pdf.
2. UNREC is developing a Practical Guide on Disarmament in French, reflecting the full range of topics related international and regional instruments on disarmament and arms control with a focus on Africa.
3. UNREC is implementing a project to support the implementation of Security Council resolution 2178 (2014) by building the capacities of African States to prevent the diversion of small arms, light weapons and ammunition to non-State armed groups. The project is being implemented in four States of the Lake Chad Basin: Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria.
4. In cooperation with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, UNREC developed an online database containing standardised information about ATT-related assistance activities carried out in Sub-Saharan Africa between 2011 and 2015. The database is available via: www.att-assistance.org.
5. UNREC organised workshops to assist the G-5 Member States (Mauritania, Mali, Niger, Chad and Burkina Faso) in preparing their initial reports pursuant to Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction to non-State actors. The Centre supported the 1540 Committee in its visits to Malawi, Senegal, and Togo. UNREC also assisted Malawi and Zambia in the preparation of their National Action Plans.



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CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- Technical assistance and training on combating the illicit trafficking of SALW
- Specialised support to national, sub-regional and regional entities in developing policies, action plans, legislation and strategies
- Support to Member States' practical disarmament initiatives
- Assistance in security sector reform activities (training and capacity building projects, policy advice, assistance in legal and institutional review and standard setting)
- Technical support in the destruction of SALW and ammunition
- Database and software development for arms control and the trade of conventional weapons
- Support in the ratification and implementation of international and regional disarmament and arms control instruments, including the Arms Trade Treaty
- Support the implementation of peace and disarmament measures within UN Security Council Resolutions 1325 (2000), 1540 (2004), 2117 (2013) and 2178 (2014)



Partners

As the sole UN regional entity mandated to address disarmament issues in Africa, UNREC cooperates with national entities, regional and subregional organizations, the United Nations system and civil society organizations. UNREC's projects are funded through voluntary contributions from Member States and other donors.

OUTREACH AND ADVOCACY

- Organizing seminars, workshops and meetings to provide a platform for Member States to share experience on various disarmament issues in Africa
- Awareness raising, promotion and implementation of international disarmament instruments
- Disarmament education in cooperation with universities and research institutions
- Promoting continued mainstreaming of gender and the involvement of women in all activities
- Strengthening national and regional capacities in peace and disarmament through volunteerism

IDENTIFYING NEEDS AND RESEARCH

- Conducting baseline assessments on SALW challenges and control issues
- Assessing needs for weapon and ammunition stockpile management
- Researching illicit arms trafficking patterns and practices and illegal manufacturing

DONORS

