

UNLIREC Newsletter

UNLIREC, as a regional office of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, seeks to advance the cause of practical disarmament in Latin America and the Caribbean as part of its commitment to support Member States in their implementation of international disarmament and non-proliferation instruments.

SOUTH AMERICAN STATES

UNLIREC supports Peru in Combating Illicit Small Arms Trafficking as part of a Joint UN Programme in Human Security



Within the framework of the UN Joint Programme ‘*Strengthening Human Security and Community Resilience by Fostering Peaceful Co-Existence in Peru*’, UNLIREC, in close cooperation with the National Superintendence for the Control of Security Services, Arms, Ammunition and Explosives for Civilian Use (SUCAMEC) of Peru, carried out a technical workshop for officials of special operations to combat illicit small arms trafficking from 6-8 August 2014 in the country’s capital, Lima.

The Joint Programme – implemented by five agencies of the UN System in Peru – supports the regional authorities of La Libertad province in districts highly affected by violence and crime through diverse initiatives of prevention, public health and improvements in public security services and justice. Within this Programme, UNLIREC is leading activities to strengthen regional and local capacities for illicit trafficking and possession of small arms.

This workshop focused on examining the nature of trafficking and illicit possession of small arms and ammunition in Peru and on strengthening the technical skills of those officials working in arms control. As a result of the workshop, 18 representatives of SUCAMEC and of the National Police of Peru were trained.

Topics included the definition and classification of small arms and ammunition, modalities of illegal arms and ammunition trafficking, stockpile

management, national norms and the chain of custody of evidence as related to arms and ammunition, as well as evidence management in cases of small arms trafficking and illicit possession.

This activity was made possible thanks to the financing of the United Nations Human Security Trust Fund and SUCAMEC and will be replicated at a workshop in November in Trujillo.

UNLIREC engages in international peace and cooperation dialogue in Argentina



Under the premise that 'peace begins at home', the Rio Grande Municipality hosted an international peace and cooperation dialogue with a view to fostering inter-regional cooperation between Latin America and Africa.

The August forum brought together international experts, diplomats and Argentinean representatives from all levels of government, along with members of the Rio Grande community to discuss a variety of themes and issues found in the Luanda Action plan and Montevideo

Declaration of the South Atlantic Peace and Cooperation Zone (SAPCZ). Participants discussed how to implement - at a local level - peace and cooperation initiatives found in the SAPCZ agreement and promote human security principles.

UNLIREC's role in the event was to share its acquired expertise on peace and security issues, including disarmament and arms control measures that municipalities can apply to contribute to community and regional security.

UNIDIR with the support of UNLIREC conducts Second ISACS Assessment Tool training in Latin America



In support of the rollout and use of International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS), the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) developed a knowledge management software tool '*ISACS Assessment Tool*' that facilitates the application of the standards in the design, monitoring and evaluation of small arms control policies, programmes and practices. In this context, UNIDIR - in cooperation with UNLIREC - held the second regional training-of-trainers workshop on the ISACS Assessment Tool from 19-20 August 2014 at the UN Office in Lima, Peru.

13 key practitioners, including members from the Organization of American States (OAS), UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) Colombia, and UNLIREC were trained on how to use the ISACS Assessment Tool and how to train others on its use. 62% of workshop participants were female.

The workshop focused on using the ISACS Assessment Tool to guide operational work on small arms control in the Latin American region in areas such as physical security and stockpile management, marking and record keeping, and border controls and law enforcement cooperation.

At the end of the course, participants exchanged views on the utility and applicability of the tool, including how it could support institutional and operational work on small arms control issues in the region. Participants appreciated, in particular, how the tool can assist with rapid priority setting and planning on small arms control measures, as well as with carrying out assessments of existing policies, programmes and operational practices.

An exit survey conducted at the end of the workshop indicated the potential use of the tool in strengthening the enforcement of existing CIFTA legislative frameworks, in particular through building capacity on small arms marking and recordkeeping. It was noted that the tool could be used to provide support to DDR processes, including on disarmament strategy, policy, and implementation.

This was the second in a series of six regional training-of-trainers workshops that UNIDIR is organizing during the second half of 2014 in partnership with the ISACS Inter-Agency Support Unit. The first workshop was held in July in Belgrade, Serbia, for the Southeast Europe region, in cooperation with UNDP/SEESAC.

UNLIREC and Peru join forces to combat impunity in cases related to illicit trafficking in small arms, ammunition and explosives



On 27 August 2014, UNLIREC inaugurated its *Specialized Course for Legal Operators: Fighting Impunity on Illicit Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition and Explosives* aimed at 26 legal practitioners, in particular at female officers from law enforcement institutions, judiciary and the Public Prosecutor's Office. The course - made possible thanks to the governments of Peru and Australia - included aspects focusing on the impact of armed violence on women and data related to femicide. It should be noted that women's access to professional training is vital for a continued and effective implementation of the UN 2001 Programme of Action on Small Arms (UN 2001 PoA).

The course's main objective was to provide useful tools to national authorities to reduce impunity in cases of illicit trafficking in small arms; provide gender-sensitive approaches to armed violence; and, strengthen coordination, communication and cooperation between legal practitioners in this area.

In order to apply the knowledge acquired during the theoretical segment of the course, participants engaged in a practical exercise on the final day, which consisted of analysing a simulated case of illicit trafficking of small arms in which data on domestic violence against women was included. The exercise highlighted how crime scene management, respect for the chain of custody, interagency and international cooperation, and an appropriate legal framework constitute essential elements in combating impunity in cases related to illicit trafficking in small arms.

This initiative forms part of a wider UNLIREC package to promote the regional implementation of UN General Assembly resolution A/res/65/69 on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control. This unique training initiative specifically recognizes the crucial role women play in promoting peace and disarmament and demonstrates how strengthening their capacities contributes to improved small arms control.

UNLIREC releases study on stray bullets in Latin America and the Caribbean

“An 11 year old girl was killed by stray bullets inside her home with her family on New Year’s Eve. The shots came from end of year celebratory gun fire. No one was arrested in the incident. Police report that 57 people were killed by stray bullets from celebratory fire over the course of the past year (1 Jan 2012).”

- UNLIREC’s Working Paper ‘Women and Children First: Armed Violence Analysis of Media Reporting of Deaths and Injuries Caused by Stray Bullets in LAC (2009-2013)’ –

On the occasion of the International Day of Peace, UNLIREC held an event entitled *The Impact of Stray Bullets in Latin America and the Caribbean*, which took place on 22 September 2014 at the UN Common House in Lima.

Members of UNLIREC’s Public Security Programme presented an analysis of reported cases of stray bullets in Latin American and Caribbean media during the period 2009-2013. The resulting study examines stray bullets armed violence in order to share recommendations to prevent this phenomenon.

The study documented 550 cases of armed violence caused by stray bullets - resulting in 617 victims - as reported in the media in 27 countries in the region. The cases were classified in the following categories: a) injury or death; b) gender; c) age; and d) types of armed violence.

Minors (under the age of 18) were 45% of all victims of stray bullets, with young adults (ages 18-29) representing 21% of victims. This means that 66% of all victims of stray bullets documented were young people under the age of 30. On the other hand, 43% of victims were women. Women represent a much higher

percentage of stray bullets victims in comparison with armed violence in general (less than 20%).

The study also points out that the best way to tackle armed violence in general, and stray bullets specifically, is by integrating small arms control and armed violence reduction and prevention measures as integral parts of citizen security, crime and violence prevention frameworks. Moreover, the study suggests that States adopt legislative measures to criminalize ‘celebratory fire’ (shots into the air), along with public awareness and education campaigns to address the cultural aspects of this behaviour.

As a means of recommendation, States should build the capacity of law enforcement personnel on the use of force, which goes beyond tactical training and focuses on the use of small arms by considering parameters of legality, necessity and proportionality.

UNLIREC hopes that this study sheds additional light on the phenomenon of stray bullets and the potential role that small arms control, armed violence reduction and other targeted measures can play in preventing more stray bullets

and the disproportionate effect they have on women and young people.

The event was attended by representatives of the diplomatic corps,

UN agencies, state institutions, civil society organizations, academia and member from the media.

The full publication of 'Women and Children First: Armed Violence Analysis of Media Reporting of Deaths and Injuries Caused by Stray Bullets in LAC (2009-2013)' can be downloaded at [www.unlirec.org]. Additionally, you may access a UNLIREC documentary, produced by Colombian journalist María Libertad Marquez, recounting the tragic story of John William Nieto, a young victim of a stray bullet in 2007 in Colombia, and his mother, Nidia Castro, at [www.youtube.com/watch?v=zCo-07NAvwQ]. The story and testimony illustrate both the gender and youth elements of the problem of armed violence.

UNLIREC and SUCAMEC join forces to combat illicit trafficking and possession of small arms in Trujillo



Under the auspices of the UN Joint Programme on Human Security, UNLIREC, in close cooperation with the SUCAMEC in Peru, carried out a technical workshop on the illicit trafficking of small arms and ammunition and their use as evidence

from 19 to 21 November in the Police Complex of San Andres of the Criminal Investigation Division and the Judicial Support Department.

The workshop aimed at strengthening the capacities of district authorities to combat illicit small arms trafficking and possession that causes undue harm in the communities of La Libertad and Trujillo. UNLIREC led this specialized three-day technical workshop that addressed different topics and measures aimed at preventing and combating trafficking of small arms and ammunition and contributing to a decrease in armed violence.

The workshop targeted 35 participants from the Peruvian National Police, SUCAMEC and the Ministry of Public Affairs, who received training on topics such as classification of small arms and ammunition, modalities of illicit small arms trafficking, national regulations, and criminal and administrative procedures, as well as correct crime scene management and the chain of custody of evidence under the new penal processing code. The instructors included national and

international experts at UNLIREC, SUCAMEC, PNP and the Judicial Investigation Body of Costa Rica.

Apart from transmitting technical knowledge on the issue of small arms and proper control measures, the workshop sought to strengthen the coordination, communication and cooperation of professionals working in these areas with the aim of maximizing their individual and collective strengths to address crimes related to arms and ammunition. The workshop included a theoretical segment and a practical exercise in which the participants applied the knowledge acquired during the training session.

The event is financed by the United Nations Human Security Trust Fund, which is made up of 5 different agencies. UNLIREC, with its headquarters in Lima, is responsible for teaching this workshop and other activities on arms control within the framework of the Joint Programme.

UNLIREC participates in launch of new study on seized arms in Peru – 2013 Report



The Coordinator of UNLIREC's Public Security Programme, Dr. William Godnick, participated in the launch of a study on seized arms in Peru - 2013 Report. The

report, developed by SUCAMEC, is the first of its kind in the country that attempts to address the complex issue of arms used in criminal acts.

The launch took place in the amphitheatre Monseñor José Dammert Bellido of the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP) to discuss the link between citizen security and arms control in light of the results of the study. The study's main conclusions found that 1 out of 3 arms seized by the National Police of Peru have a legal origin in the national market and are duly registered with SUCAMEC, whilst 2 out of 3 arms come from smuggling, unknown sources, or have altered markings.

The roundtable was moderated by Carlos Alza Barco, Director of PUCP's School of

Governance and Public Policy, with commentaries led by Dr. Godnick of UNLIREC and Sofia Viscarra, researcher of PUCP's Laboratory of Social Criminology of the School of Governance and Public Policy.

The experts agreed with the approach of SUCAMEC to design public policies on arms control and citizen security on the basis of concrete evidence. Furthermore, they emphasized that the report encourages additional research on the causes, routes, and dynamics of arms transfers from the licit to the illicit market.

UNLIREC contributes to legislative dialogue on citizen security and arms control in Peru



UNLIREC was invited by the Peruvian Congress to participate in a roundtable on small arms control and citizen security during the first week of December 2014.

This roundtable was comprised of representatives from a diverse range of public institutions, small arms experts, small arms users, academics and other members of civil society who were given

the opportunity to share their perspectives on the role of small arms control within the context of citizen security issues.

UNLIREC's interventions, led by Dr. Godnick, Public Security Programme Coordinator, focused on the importance of a national strategy for small arms control based on four pillars: transparency in the

legal small arms control trade; strengthening of institutions and their personnel to better combat illicit small arms trafficking; responsible management of national stockpiles; and a robust legal framework on the possession and use of small arms.

In addition, UNLIREC made recommendations on the new bill of law formulated by SUCAMEC, acknowledging the positive aspects within the new bill, such as prohibiting the recirculation of small arms, the marking of small arms upon importation, and a call to destroy small arms used in illicit activities once the legal proceedings on these cases have

been concluded. Furthermore, UNLIREC suggested addressing some of the gaps within the bill, including definitions and specification of criminal conducts as related to parts and components, illicit manufacturing, illicit trafficking and the altering of small arms markings. The final recommendation stressed the need and importance of regulating ammunition.

The new bill of law will be the subject of debate in upcoming legislative sessions. UNLIREC supports the Government of Peru in its efforts to implement international instruments on conventional arms control, including small arms and light weapons.

South American regional workshop on the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 1540 (2004)

The Government of Peru, in cooperation with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) through its Regional Centre, UNLIREC, hosted a regional workshop on the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) for South American States from 11-13 November 2014 in Lima.



The Security Council, acting under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter, unanimously adopted resolution 1540 (2004) on 28 April 2004 obliging all States to enforce effective measures and

establish domestic controls to prevent the proliferation of nuclear, chemical or biological weapons and their means of delivery to non-State actors. To this end, States are required to develop and maintain appropriate effective measures to account for and secure such items in production, use, storage or transport and to develop and maintain appropriate physical protection measures.

The workshop in Lima - organized with funds provided by the European Union, the Republic of Korea, Norway and the United States of America - was the first workshop for South American States on the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004) focusing on the issue of effective physical protection and accounting of related materials.

Representatives of eleven Member States, as well as international and regional

organizations attended the three-day workshop. Participating States engaged in information exchange and experience sharing, and discussed effective national

practices for implementing Resolution 1540 (2004), as well as cooperation with relevant international and regional partner organizations.

“International cooperation in upholding the provisions of resolution 1540 is essential. The United Nations is mobilizing all stakeholders to join efforts aimed at preventing WMD proliferation and terrorism, and [...] stands ready to strengthen its partnership with all those who share the objectives of resolution 1540.”

-UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon (2013)-

CARIBBEAN STATES

UNLIREC contributes to dialogue on small arms control in the Caribbean

The US Department of State and CARICOM/IMPACS co-organized the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI) Technical Working Group meeting in September in collaboration with the Ministry of National Security of The Bahamas.

The objectives of the Nassau meeting were to address national and regional initiatives to combat illicit SALW trafficking and identify specific areas where additional regional cooperation is required. Forensic ballistics, maritime security and capacity-building in the area of SALW evidence management and investigative techniques were identified as ongoing areas in need of assistance, while the advances made in the areas of

stockpile management, destruction, marking and tracing were celebrated.



UNLIREC, in its role as the US' main implementing partner in the combat of illicit SALW trafficking in the region, played a prominent role in the agenda speaking and moderating in the majority of agenda items.

UNLIREC and Trinidad and Tobago convene national roundtable on strengthening the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004)



On 13-14 October 2014, UNLIREC convened a national roundtable on strengthening the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) in Trinidad and Tobago. The roundtable was held in collaboration with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago, with the financial support of the US Department of State's Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation. The meeting formed part of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package for Caribbean States and was a follow up to the 1540 Committee's visit to Trinidad and Tobago in 2013.

The roundtable brought together over 25 representatives from various institutions and agencies in Trinidad and Tobago with responsibilities in 1540-related matters, including the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, National Security, Health, Energy and Energy Affairs, Science and Technology, the Office of the Attorney General and representatives from the Office of the Prime Minister, among others. This meeting enabled UNLIREC to not only share the findings and recommendations

of its national study on the country's legislative framework on 1540, but also actively engage with different stakeholders, gather additional information on the implementation of the resolution in the country, and determine a series of priority areas for the delivery of further technical assistance in the coming months.

Representatives were forthcoming in presenting the specific challenges faced by their respective institutions, disclosing information related to the domestic legislative and regulatory framework, as well as operational and enforcement challenges. Participants welcomed further support and a proactive engagement by UNLIREC to strengthen the implementation of the resolution.

UNLIREC looks forward to continued collaboration with the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to further strengthen the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in the country.

International Maritime Organization and UNLIREC work with the Government of Grenada to enhance maritime and port security



UNLIREC has been working with the Government of Grenada to provide legal and technical assistance under its 1540 Assistance Package since early 2014. During the 1540 national roundtable held in June 2014, UNLIREC and Government stakeholders identified a series of existing training needs and institutional challenges and priorities with respect to non-proliferation issues, including border control measures to enhance security at ports and effective ways to deal with small vessel security. Consequently, UNLIREC liaised with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to organize a two-day table top exercise (29-30 October 2014) to identify good practice and strengthen maritime and port security measures.



The exercise brought together 24 government officials with responsibilities in maritime and port security, including the National Disaster Management Agency, the Port Authority and various departments in the Royal Grenadian Police

Force, including the Coast Guard, Port Security, Customs and Excise, Immigration and Fire Department. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Business, the Honourable Nickolas Skeete, and the US Charge D'Affaires, Mr. Louis Crishock, were present at the opening ceremony, thus reflecting Grenada's level of commitment to strengthening implementation of resolution 1540 (2004).

During the exercise, dialogue revolved around the current challenges facing the country in addressing port and maritime security while, crisis/incident management training and risk management, as well as the development of protocols and contingency plans were highlighted as priorities. A number of other issues and challenges were discussed, including the need for improved inter-agency coordination and utilization of resources, targeted exercises for senior level personnel (policy and managerial level), training for first responders, assistance to enhance the response of the Coast Guard, strengthening of related legislation and broad based education on existing legislation so that officials have a comprehensive understanding of the relevant laws and have a legal basis for intervention if necessary and continuous drills/similar table top exercises.

UNLIREC will continue to work together with the government to address these issues within the framework of its 1540 Assistance Package and the voluntary national action plan currently being drafted by Grenada.

UNLIREC also looks forward to collaborating further with the International Maritime Organization and other agencies to strengthen border controls across the region.

UNLIREC supports WMD non-proliferation in the Caribbean

UNLIREC conducted a joint mission to Belize in August in collaboration with the US Export Control and Related Border Security (EXBS) Program to meet with Belizean 1540 government stakeholders to explore interest in UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package. Similar exploratory dialogue was carried out with government representatives from the Dominican Republic in mid-2014. Both sets of consultations have led to requests from the two governments for UNLIREC to review the national legislation and present recommendations, as well as discuss next steps and a plan of action for strengthening the implementation of the resolution through training and capacity-building in legislative and other areas.

In addition, Canada and CARICOM/IMPACS organized a two-day capacity-building workshop in September in Trinidad and Tobago on WMD interdiction aimed at CARICOM Member States. The workshop emphasized the need for inter-agency cooperation and coordination across the region, as well as capacity-building and the implementation of controls to prevent WMD proliferation, their components and delivery systems. The organizers invited UNLIREC to deliver a presentation on its capacity-building initiatives and content of its 1540 Assistance Package. UNLIREC also seized the opportunity to encourage authorities to request its assistance to strengthen 1540 implementation in their respective countries.

UNLIREC and Jamaica hold national working sessions with key stakeholders to review 1540 (2004) related legislation



On 2-5 December 2014, UNLIREC, in collaboration with the Government of

Jamaica, convened a series of technical legislative work sessions and a national

roundtable on strengthening the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) in Kingston, Jamaica.

The technical working sessions, held on the 2-3 December, brought together officials from various institutions and agencies which have responsibilities in 1540-related matters, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade, the Ministry of National Security, The Ministry of Science Technology, Energy and Mining, the Ministry of Health, the Office of the Chief Parliamentary Counsel, the Bureau of Standards and the International Centre for Environmental and Nuclear Sciences.

During this two-day work session, UNLIREC, together with a 1540 Committee Expert and the Verification Research, Training and Information Centre (VERTIC), engaged in discussions with government representatives on proposed draft legislation on biological and nuclear issues.

During the working sessions, UNLIREC was able to present its recommendations on the proposed draft legislation and existing domestic legal framework. Together with VERTIC and the 1540 Committee Expert, discussions were also had on the possible

approaches to enactment of 1540-related legislation and the continued significance of the resolution. Government representatives indicated their acceptance of UNLIREC's recommendations during the meeting and highlighted the importance of enacting effective legislation to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery.

On 5 December, a national roundtable was held with a broader group of stakeholders from both the enforcement and policy level. Officials expressed specific challenges currently facing the country, as it relates to border controls and the training of immigration officials.

Jamaica aims to continue its work on the drafting of legislation in chemical, biological and nuclear matters in an effort to strengthen the implementation of Resolution 1540. UNLIREC stands ready to further collaborate with the Jamaican government in the near future.

These meetings were held with the financial support of the US Department of State's Bureau of International Security and Nonproliferation and formed part of UNLIREC's 1540 Assistance Package for Caribbean States.



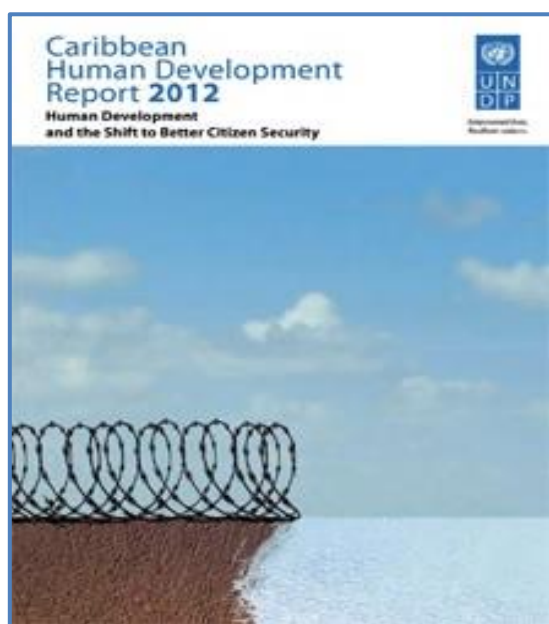
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UNLIREC contributes to citizen security dialogue in the Caribbean

UNLIREC participated in a multi-stakeholder meeting in Bridgetown, Barbados, aimed at promoting dialogue around the roots and underlying causes of growing insecurity in Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean.



The three-day event (3-5 Dec.) was organized by the United Nations Development Programme and brought together representatives from Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean States including overseas territories, civil society organizations, and regional and international organizations.

In 2012 the UNDP Caribbean-wide Human Development Report on Citizen Security pointed out the need for the region to shift from traditional concepts of state security to a broader multidimensional concept that focuses on citizen security,

safety, as well as the well-being of Caribbean citizens. UNDP is consequently in the lead up to rollout a sub-regional citizen security programme in Barbados and the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States (OECS). In light of this, UNLIREC was invited to present a trend analysis on armed violence and small arms trafficking in the Caribbean.

UNLIREC presented its recent media monitoring research on illicit small arms trafficking across the Caribbean, as well as the key findings of an exploratory study on stray bullets in Latin America and the Caribbean. The presentation was followed by an interactive discussion by participating countries around the issues of small arms proliferation and small arms use in the region. Further discussions evolved around the sources of insecurity such as violence and crime against and by youth, gender-based violence and drug trafficking.

Understanding regional trends is pivotal to addressing national responses and (sub-) regional approaches to tackling armed violence and promoting citizen security

As the Regional Centre of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, UNLIREC serves 33 States in the region in assisting them in the development of disarmament policies and the implementation of international disarmament instruments, most notably the UN 2001 PoA.

In the Spotlight

Coinciding with the celebrations of the UN International Day on the Elimination of Violence against Women, (25 Nov.), UNLIREC launched a Spanish-funded publication aimed at maintaining international momentum in progressing towards women's empowerment in the security field. The publication, entitled *'Forces of Change II: Recognizing the contribution of Latin American and Caribbean Women to Disarmament'*, pays tribute to the women who capture the essence of resolution 65/69 adopted by the UN General Assembly in 2010 on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control.

UNLIREC's Forces of Change II publication highlights the contribution of Latin American and Caribbean women to disarmament

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In early 2014, UNLIREC reached out to all Latin American and Caribbean States to nominate women responsible for the implementation of an extensive range of disarmament matters. The contributions were voluntary in nature and came from all parts of the region. The response was overwhelmingly positive and UNLIREC witnessed an outpouring of interest from, most notably, Argentina, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago.

In *'Forces of Change II'*, readers will find the stories of policy-makers, diplomats, security forces representatives, justice officials, and civil society workers who dedicate their lives, day in and day out, to advancing the women, peace and security agenda from their unique scope of action. Ambassador Maria Cristina Perceval of Argentina, one of the eighty women featured, reflected on the work being carried out in the region: "Disarmament is a life project, an ethical decision and a political commitment. Disarming inequalities, hatred, violence, discrimination, injustice, intolerance, fear, and domination is the means of ensuring that every conflict that destroys us [...] ceases to exist."



In a similar vein, the UN High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Angela Kane, acknowledged UNLIREC's publication as an emblematic illustration of the valuable contribution of women to disarmament efforts, citing that "the only true means of fully implementing the spirit of landmark resolutions, such as resolution 65/69, is to genuinely embrace the crucial role played by women and secure their place as 'forces of change' in disarmament, non-proliferation, and arms control."

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UNLIREC invites you to participate in the third edition of this publication, or recommend any exceptional women working in the field of disarmament, by writing to [officeofthedirector@unlirec.org] with your nominations.



“Gender equality and women’s empowerment have been a top priority for me from day one. And I am committed to making sure that the UN walks the talk.”
- UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon (2014)-

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Central America

UNLIREC present at 'First Experts Meeting – EU ATT Outreach Project'



Germany's Federal Office for Economic Affairs and Export Control (BAFA) invited UNLIREC to cross the Atlantic to attend the 'First Experts Meeting – EU Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) Outreach Project' activity that took place in Germany in late August. BAFA and UNODA's regional Centres, including UNLIREC, are engaged in exploratory dialogue on further collaboration in the field of ATT

implementation in light of the Treaty's upcoming entry-into-force on 24 December 2014.

Later in 2014, BAFA extended an invitation to UNLIREC to showcase its new ATT Implementation Course at a BAFA-led regional ATT event in Colombia in November.

UNLIREC's new ATT Implementation Course launched in Costa Rica

In response to requests by States in Latin America and the Caribbean, and to help prepare them for the implementation of the ATT, UNLIREC developed a practical training course on ATT Implementation ('ATT Implementation Course'). The course complements resources provided by UNODA, including the UNODA ATT implementation toolkit. The training course was piloted at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in San Jose, Costa Rica, from 8-10 October 2014. National operators dealing with the control of imports and exports of conventional arms attended the training,

alongside relevant officials from other Central American States.



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With financial support from Germany and Spain, the training course is available for interested States throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. It aims to assist States in their efforts to create national control lists and responsibly evaluate the risks involved in conventional arms transfers. Course modules include the technical aspects of conventional arms and their trade, legal requirements of treaty implementation, and arms transfer risk assessments, among others topics.

The course also features a unique practical simulation, whereby participants play various roles to review transfer 'cases', and apply tools introduced in the classroom to determine whether the transfers should be authorized or not. In addition, a model end-user certificate drawing on global best practices is provided to Member States as a starting point for strengthening arms

transfer controls. German funding has made possible an English-language version of the course, adapted to the Caribbean context, which will be piloted to assist Caribbean States.

Since the beginning of the ATT process over a decade ago, States in Latin America and the Caribbean have been highly active in supporting the Treaty. To date, the following 15 States have ratified the Treaty: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay. Having secured the requisite 50 ratifications, the Treaty will enter into force on 24 December 2014.

UNLIREC partners with Mexico to promote gender and youth approaches to implementing the UN 2001 PoA and the ATT



On 13 November 2014, UNLIREC organized a roundtable on incorporating gender and youth approaches to UN 2001 PoA and ATT implementation. The roundtable, organized at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico,

responded to requests by States for UNLIREC support to their implementation of international conventional arms regulation and control and instruments.

Geographical coverage / Cobertura geográfica

Antigua and Barbuda • Argentina • Bahamas • Barbados • Belize • Bolivia • Brazil • Chile • Colombia
Costa Rica • Cuba • Dominican Republic • Dominica • Ecuador • El Salvador • Grenada • Guatemala
Guyana • Haiti • Honduras • Jamaica • Mexico • Nicaragua • Panama • Paraguay • Peru • Saint Lucia
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines • St. Kitts and Nevis • Suriname • Trinidad and Tobago • Uruguay • Venezuela

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With financial support from Australia, the roundtable assembled 25 representatives from governments, international organizations and academia, bringing together expertise on gender and conventional arms control. Experts reviewed existing laws, policies and implementation mechanisms for controlling arms and preventing armed violence, particularly gender-based violence.

The roundtable highlighted good practices in incorporating gender and youth approaches in disarmament and arms control programmes, and evaluated practical ways to include gender in export assessments covered by the ATT.

The feedback received during this roundtable will help enhance the gender-sensitive approaches mainstreamed in UNLIREC's new ATT Implementation Course and accompanying simulation exercises. This three-day course, successfully piloted in October 2014 in Costa Rica, is now available to requesting States and

complements resources provided by UNODA. The perspectives and best practices exchanged during the expert roundtable will also be used to make UNLIREC's new 'export assessment tool' more effective in reducing the risk of weapons being used to commit acts of violence, particularly against women and youth.

States in the region have made considerable progress in UN 2001 PoA implementation, which was adopted by the United Nations in 2001 as an instrument to prevent and combat trafficking in small arms and light weapons. Those States have also been strong supporters of the ATT, which will enter into force on 24 December.

To date, 15 States in the region have ratified the Treaty: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Panama, St. Lucia, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay.

“While men are the group most affected by armed violence, women suffer in great measure as a result of indirect consequences, because they are the primary victims of gender-based violence.¹ For young women and girls, improving their security is to a lesser degree dependent on the risks associated with conflict or criminal activity, but more associated with decreasing the risk of domestic violence. Homicides in the family are the only category in which the number of women murdered is higher. The presence of a gun in the home increases the risk of death for women by 272%² and presents a latent threat of sexual violence, diminishing the possibility of escape by the victim or of receiving help, and increases the risk that children in the home may suffer accidents.”
- ‘Measures for Mainstreaming Gender and Youth Approaches in PoA and ATT Implementation’ (UNLIREC, 2014)-

¹Secretary General Report on Small Arms, 2013. S/2013/503.

²“The Effects of Weapons on the Lives of Women.” Amnistía Internacional y Oxfam. 2005.

UNLIREC joined international group of experts to improve small arms investigations in Guatemala



In November, the NGO IEPADES requested UNLIREC to join an international group of instructors to train 60 prosecutors and police officers in Guatemala to enhance collaboration to prevent and investigate small arms -related crimes. The session led by UNLIREC drew on content from its Inter-institutional Training Course for Combating Illicit Small Arms Trafficking (IITC) and its ongoing media monitoring project that

seeks to develop a typology of illegal small arms circulation based on real cases. UNLIREC also coordinated with IEPADES and the Government of Guatemala on the planning and implementation of a stockpile management workshop scheduled for February 2015 as part of UNLIREC's Central American armed violence prevention project funded by Germany.

UNLIREC Agenda (Jan-Mar 2015)

January

- ✓ *Arms Trade Treaty Implementation Course (source of funding: Germany)*
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic
- ✓ *Technical assistance mission on 1540 Operative paragraph 2 related to proliferation financing (source of funding: USA)*
Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago
- ✓ *Roundtable on national legal study and stakeholders meeting (source of funding: USA)*
Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic

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February

- ✓ *Workshop on stockpile management for police and judiciary (source of funding: Germany)*
Guatemala City, Guatemala
- ✓ *Workshop on national strategies for small arms control and armed violence reduction (source of funding: Germany)*
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
- ✓ *Focus groups sessions on guns and violence (source of funding: UN Human Security Trust Fund)*
Trujillo, Peru
- ✓ *Seminar on disarmament and small arms control: experience sharing from local governments from Latin American countries (source of funding: UN Human Security Trust Fund)*
Trujillo, Peru
- ✓ *1540 Roundtable on national legal study and stakeholders meeting (source of funding: USA)*
Belmopan, Belize

March

- ✓ *Arms Trade Treaty Implementation Course (source of funding: Germany)*
San Salvador, El Salvador
- ✓ *Specialized course on evidence management of illicit small arms and ammunition (source of funding: Germany)*
San José, Costa Rica
- ✓ *Sub-regional seminar on 1540 for CARICOM countries*
Lima, Peru

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