

**CO-CHAIRS' SUMMARY RECORD OF THE ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM (ARF)  
WORKSHOP ON "MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY OF SMALL ARMS AND  
LIGHTS WEAPONS INCLUDING THEIR AMMUNITIONS"**

13-14 December 2007, Phnom Penh, Cambodia

1. As endorsed by the 14<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Manila on 2 August 2007, Cambodia and Germany on behalf of the European Union (EU) hosted the ARF Workshop on "Management and Security of Small Arms and Light Weapons Including their Ammunitions" on 13-14 December 2007 in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. The Workshop took place in the framework of the Project on SALW Control and Improved Safe Storage of Ammunition and Explosives in Cambodia implemented by German Technical Cooperation. The objective of the Workshop was to provide guidance and exchange views on the effective management and security of public stockpiles of small arms and light weapons (SALWs) including their ammunitions and also explore measures for regional cooperation.
2. The Workshop was co-chaired by H. E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, and Mr. Michael Hasenau, Counsellor, Deputy Head of Division, Conventional Arms Control, Federal Foreign Office, Berlin, Germany.
3. The Workshop was attended by representatives of ARF participating countries, namely Australia, Kingdom of Cambodia, Canada, European Union, Federal Republic of Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, the Philippines, Russian Federation, Singapore, Kingdom of Thailand, United States of America and Viet Nam. The Workshop was also attended by the non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and institutions such as Cambodia Mine Action Center (CMAC), Cambodian Red Cross, International-Relation Institute of Cambodia (IRIC), Japan Center for Conflict Prevention (JCCP), Royal Academy of Cambodia. The ARF Unit of the ASEAN Secretariat was also present. The list of delegates appears as **ANNEX 1**.

**OPENING CEREMONY**

4. H.E. Mr. Sar Kheng, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Interior of the Royal Government of Cambodia, delivered his Opening Remarks. The Deputy Prime Minister suggested that the Workshop take up several principles both at the national and regional levels. At the national level, these included, adopting and implementing laws and regulations to criminalize illegal activities, establishing a national coordinating institution, ensuring adequate registration and raising public awareness. At the regional level, he proposed the establishment of a coordinating network, the promotion of cross border cooperation between law enforcement agencies and the promotion of the management and security of stockpiles. The Deputy Prime Minister stressed that as the prime responsibility in the management of security of SALWs lies with the State, international cooperation especially in finance and technology was important.

5. H.E Mr. Frank Marcus Mann, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, in his Opening Remarks, stressed that the excessive and uncontrolled accumulation and spread of SALWs posed a threat to peace and security and reduced the prospects for sustainable development in many regions of the world including in Asia. He noted that addressing the negative humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation and excessive accumulation of SALWs including their ammunition is a key priority for the EU. In this regard, part of the German's EU Presidency's Programme on SALW in the first half of 2007 was on efforts to intensify dialogue and cooperation with regional organizations.
6. H.E. Mr. Jean Francois Desmaziers, Ambassador of France, on behalf of the EU, said the workshop built on a previous ARF Seminar on SALW related issues held in Phnom Penh in November 2005 and represented the EU's continuing support for Cambodia in addressing this critical issue. This Workshop was also within the framework to engage in a dialogue on security issues with the ARF which he said was a valuable forum.
7. The Opening Remarks appear as **ANNEX 2**.

**AGENDA ITEM 1: ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

8. The Workshop adopted the Agenda which appears as **ANNEX 3**.

**AGENDA ITEM 2: ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS**

9. The Workshop was held in seven plenary sessions. The Programme of Activities appears as **ANNEX 4**.

**AGENDA ITEM 3: Plenary Session I – The relevance of stockpile management and security in curbing illegal transfers of SALW and their ammunitions.**

10. The Session was chaired by H.E. Dr. Kao Kim Hourn, Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Royal Government of Cambodia. The presentations were by the Bonn International Center for Conversion and Australia. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 5**.
11. The Workshop noted that there were a diverse group of actors involved in the SALWs issue, including the security services, legal paramilitary groups, civilians and the illegal sector for example the criminals. Hence, the need to address the challenges arising out of SALWs issues needed to be carried out in a rationale and reasonable manner.
12. One of the main challenges facing the management and security of stockpiles of SALWs in curbing illegal transfers include the lack of proper records and licensing procedures. Improper documentation of SALWs causes a security threat and represents a potential for destabilization in certain states. In addition,

these problems tend to have a cross border effect and become regional problems.

13. The Workshop agreed that safety and security of SALWs needs political intervention, will and commitment in terms of providing the necessary resources and proper legislation; adequate training doctrines and appropriate technology. It also required international technical assistance and cooperation in registration, tracing, storage and destruction; and relevant safety measures include safety zones around ammunition depots and safe levels of stockpiles. The Workshop acknowledged that different countries had different priorities depending on their capacities.
14. The Workshop noted the various national and domestic measures undertaken by ARF participating countries in ensuring stockpile management and security. These include a proper inventory or national stockpile management systems to prevent illegal transfers, traceability through frequent stocktakes and the utilization of computer databases to assist in the identification of firearms used in criminal offenses. In some countries, a cradle to grave approach is used with the help of end users certificates which prevents selling and recirculation into the community.
15. Other measures include inter-agency policy coordination networks and the use of criminal law to prevent illegal ownership of war weapons and to prevent illicit trade in SALWs. There are also army regulations on the hand over of SALWs, frequent safety and inventory checks and the establishment of systems to include details such as serial numbers, date of transactions, disposal and the destruction of surpluses. Other detailed measures include appropriate markings on SALWs stockpile items including on firearms and ammunition and having serial numbers on spare parts and components to control firearms in the community.
16. The Workshop also noted the occupational and safety issues involved when dealing with ammunition such as the need for adequate facilities to address fire and explosion at stockpile depots and ammunition storage and blood testing for lead and hazardous materials for personnel working in these areas.
17. The Workshop stressed that any effort to ensure the safety and security of SALWs would need to address links to transnational crime such as drug smuggling and cross border illicit trade. This requires extra-regional and international cooperation with the assistance of the police, customs and law enforcement officers. Joint land border and maritime patrols were also highlighted as examples.
18. The important role of the individual, local communities and NGOs with their different perceptions of their own security was also stressed.
19. The Workshop also noted that apart from illegal deviation from surpluses, another challenge is the need to curb the levels of reserves across the globe but recognized that this faced the challenge of defining the level of surplus.

20. The Workshop also noted the operations of the Cambodian Mine Action Centre to respond to the clearing of mines and unexploded ordinances in the aftermath of the war. The measures carried out include demining activities, cooperation with local authorities and the district police force to mobilize ammunition in scrap/junk metal shops, cooperation with the armed forces and the police force to collect unusable ammunition for destruction; and also cooperation with technical assistance providers and external funding agencies.

**AGENDA ITEM 4:                    Plenary Session II – Physical security and inventory-management requirements: SALW and their ammunitions**

21. The Session was chaired by Mr. Michael Hasenau, Deputy Head, Conventional Arms Control of the German Foreign Office in Berlin. The presentations were by Mr. David de Beer, the former Programme Manager of the EU ASAC and India. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 6, 7**.

22. The Workshop noted that stockpile management was one of the key areas under the European Assistance on Curbing SALW in Cambodia (EU ASAC) which ended in 2006. The elements of the stockpile security project included the improvement of stockpile facilities, registration system for small arms and training of personnel. In terms of security, the issues included ensuring a proper location and special building requirements, limitation of access, human surveillance and electronic surveillance. The registration system included a data base listing including make and model, date and country of manufacture, serial number, date in service, storage building and markings and tracing.

23. The Workshop agreed that apart from the importance of physical security for SALWs and their ammunition, it was also essential to improve the capacity of Government authorities dealing with such issues.

24. The Workshop also highlighted that Man Portable Air Defence Systems (MANPADS) deserve special attention because of their ability to destroy civilian passenger aircraft and in this regard noted the UNGA Resolution **A/RES/60/77** on MANPADS of 8 December 2005 which “Encouraged Member States to enact or improve legislation, regulations procedures and stockpile management practice”.

25. The Workshop agreed that in order to achieve better controls, safer stockpiling and surplus weapons destruction, states would need to consider a series of measures and actions. These included a review of current practices, establish effective systems for management and accountability, and ensure adequate and detailed standards and procedures relating to appropriate locations, physical security measures, inventory management and staff training. The security of transport of SALWs, the norm of destruction of surplus of SALWs, and restraint in the transfer of surplus SALW were also stressed upon.

26. The Workshop also noted that programmes to promote good practices, specialist training programmes and establishing systems for emergency assistance with regard to arms stockpile security were needed.
27. The Workshop noted the outcome from the ASEAN Workshop on Small Arms Control that was held in May 2007, Cambodia which, among others, recommended strengthening cooperation and coordination among existing ASEAN bodies involved in this area; the establishment or improvement of domestic laws on the control and the restriction of illicit trade, transfer and proliferation in SALWs in ASEAN. Other recommendations included the establishment of hotline contact points; the promotion of information and intelligence exchange and sharing of best practices; and capacity building on investigative skills for law enforcement/defense agencies.
28. The Workshop also noted the calls made by ASEAN at the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly in the general debate of the 1<sup>st</sup> Committee where ASEAN “recognized the need to establish and maintain control over private ownership of small arms” and its call on states, in particular major producing States, to ensure that the supply of SALWs is limited only to Governments or to entities duly authorized by the Government and to implement legal restrictions preventing the illicit trade of SALWs.

**AGENDA ITEM 5:                    Plenary Session III – Physical security and inventory-management requirements: Specific requirements for ammunitions**

29. The Session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Sieng Lapresse, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Interior, Royal Government of Cambodia. The presentations were by Mr. Adrian Sprangemeijer, Project Manager, GTZ Project on SALW Control and Improved Safe Storage of Ammunition and Explosives in Cambodia and Lieutenant General Chau Phirun, Director-General, General Department of Material & Technique, Ministry of National Defence, Royal Government of Cambodia. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 8**.
30. The Workshop noted the specific storage requirements for ammunition, taking into account hazards, fire fighting classifications and lightning protection. The need for international and regional cooperation and assistance for some countries in the ASEAN region on the regular testing of propellant charges to determine the shelf life of ammunitions was highlighted.
31. The Workshop agreed that similar to SALWs, ammunitions also needed physical security and inventory management. The Workshop noted the general principles involved in building adequate storage for ammunition, in public traffic route distances and the need for a proper ammunition accounting system. Other requirements related to the reasonable levels of storage for high explosives, preserving chemical stability of propellants as decomposition can lead to spontaneous ignition, hazards from electro-magnetic radiation to ammunition containing electro-explosive devices and the requirement for the separation of petroleum, oil and lubricants within military facilities.

**AGENDA ITEM 6:                    Plenary Session IV: Tracing standards, record-keeping and the prospects of tracing SALW and their ammunitions**

32. The Session was chaired by Mr. Michael Hasenau. The presentation was by Dr. Michael Ashkenazi, Leader of SALW Control, Bonn International Center for Conversion. The presentation appears as **ANNEX 9**.
33. The Workshop noted the key challenge for countries is to ensure, through adequate legislation, that no weapon within its boundaries is left unmarked. A single authoritative, comprehensive and easily accessible database for record-keeping would also ensure up-to-date information on where every firearm is located at any point in time.
34. The Workshop acknowledged that for the military, record keeping was important in order to know how many weapons were available whereas for the law enforcement officials, tracing would be in line with its objective of knowing how a particular weapon is associated with a particular crime and/or particular criminal.
35. At the international level, countries can rely on the assistance of the INTERPOL tracing system to trace SALWs and there are also software packages available to assist in identifying the weapons and ammunition used in a criminal scene. The Workshop also noted a number of bilateral assistance mechanisms for states in tracing and report-keeping for their military and police forces.

**AGENDA ITEM 7:                    Plenary Session V – Ways to assess SALW and their ammunitions that are surplus to requirement**

36. The Session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Sieng Lapresse. The presentations were by Mr. Adrian Sprangemeijer, GTZ ISSAC Project Manager and Col. Peter Pauels, Head, Global Arms and Proliferation Control, Verification Center of the German Armed Forces. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 10**.
37. The Workshop discussed the ways to assess SALW and the ammunitions that are surplus to requirement. At the international level, reference can be made to the Register of Conventional Arms maintained at the UN HQ in New York while in the domestic context, reference can be made to the municipal arms procurement law, parliamentary budgetary control and the size and structure of the security forces. References can also be made to stockpile management and to force reduction and demobilization. The Workshop welcomed the forthcoming work of the UN Group of Governmental Experts on Conventional Ammunition in Surplus.
38. The issue of surplus requirements is also influenced by the existence of post-conflict situations where there are huge stocks of equipment and ammunition available and there are no proper accounting systems in place. International

political movements and decisions, for example on antipersonnel landmines, can also be a factor.

39. The Workshop was also briefed on the 'Best Practice Guide on the Definition and Indicators of a Surplus of Small Arms and Light Weapons' issued by the OSCE. Issues such as necessity, defense stockpiles and indicators and the determination of surplus were discussed.

**AGENDA ITEM 8:                    Plenary Session VI – Destruction, recycling and associated environment issues**

40. The Session was chaired by Mr. Michael Hasenau. The presentations were by Mr. Roger Hess, Director Field Operations, Golden West Humanitarian Foundation, Washington, USA. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 11**.
41. The Workshop looked at issues of the political, economic and social realities and public safety considerations when addressing the destruction and recycling of SALWs and their ammunitions. The proliferation of weapons and international security was also considered.
42. Current demilitarization methods such as deactivation furnaces and robotic and automated mechanisms were discussed. The Workshop stressed the need to take into account the local environment and conditions prior to imposing external standards which may not be suitable when carrying out destruction and recycling activities. The availability and cost-effectiveness of local technology and resources especially for recycling were noted.

**AGENDA ITEM 9:                    Plenary Session VII – Perspectives for enhanced regional cooperation**

43. The Session was chaired by H.E. Mr. Sieng Lapresse. The presentations were by Brigadier General Chan Kim Seng, Chief Department of Arms, Explosives and Fire Management, Ministry of Interior, Royal Government of Cambodia and Mr. David de Beer. The presentations appear as **ANNEX 12**.
44. The Workshop looked at the main international agreements on this issue of SALW and other international processes such as the Arms Trade Treaty, the Geneva Declaration on Armed Violence and Development and the Canadian Inter-sessional (which concentrated on international transfers of SALW).
45. The Workshop agreed that the following proposed measures could enhance regional cooperation:
- Strengthen domestic laws and regulations on SALW control;
  - Consider adopting a similar system of marking and registration among countries in the region;
  - Assist each other to meet international requirements for example on the implementation of the 2001 UN Programme of Action on SALW and the 2005 International Instrument on Marking and Tracing;

- Collaboration against illegal arms sellers and brokers;
- Adopt regional protocols such as the ECOWAS Protocol for East & Central Africa;
- Establish a specialized regional SALW support Secretariat/resource centre to give practical assistance to countries in improving SALW security and meeting their international obligations on SALW control.

46. The Workshop also noted the encouragement to also look at the issue of the arms trade/industry including the role and responsibility of weapons producers, manufactures and users in every dimension of this SALW Subject.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 10: Other Matters**

47. There were no other matters.

#### **AGENDA ITEM 11: Co-Chair's Summary Report**

48. Cambodia and Germany on behalf of the European Union jointly presented the Co-Chair's Summary Report of the ARF Workshop on "Management and Security of Stockpiles of Small Arms and Light Weapons including their Ammunitions".

#### **CLOSING CEREMONY**

49. H. E. Mr. Hor Namhong, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation delivered his Closing Remarks. He highlight that Cambodia is able to share its experience and best practices of dealing with the issue of small arms and light weapons. Over the years, eliminating the illegal circulation of small arms and light weapons has been an important undertaking for Cambodia in terms of ensuring social order and security in the country. In this regard, the Royal Government of Cambodia is fully committed to continue fighting the lawless use of small arms and light weapons, including ammunitions, since the launch of a national campaign to confiscate and destroy them by our Prime Minister Samdech Akka Moha Sena Padei Techo Hun Sen. More than two hundred thousand (206,122) of small arms and light weapons had been collected and destroyed. This campaign of weapons confiscation and destruction continues to be implemented, which appears as **ANNEX 13**.

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

50. The Workshop expressed its gratitude and appreciation to the people and Government of the Kingdom of Cambodia as the host of the Workshop for the excellent arrangements made and the hospitality extended to all the participants. The participants also thanked the European Union represented by Germany for co-sponsoring the Workshop.

