



# 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 for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), is mandated to provide, upon request, substantive support for initiatives and other practical efforts of Member States in Africa towards the realization of measures of peace, arms control and disarmament. UNREC assists African Member States in their efforts to effectively implement their obligations under various disarmament, nonproliferation, arms regulation and confidence-building instruments and treaties and to reform their defence and security forces including through disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR).

The Centre supports African States, the African Union, and sub-regional organizations by strengthening their capacity and providing them with the technical, legal and substantive assistance necessary to achieve sustainable peace and security in pursuance of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and in compliance with UN Secretary General's Disarmament Agenda.



## CURRENT PROJECTS AND RECENT UNREC EVENTS

- UNREC is implementing a project entitled **"Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2020: Capacity Building in Central Africa"**. This project aims to strengthen the capacity of Central African States to effectively implement the Kinshasa Convention and thereby better manage small arms and light weapons (SALW) and combat their illicit trafficking. The project provides technical and legal capacity-building, delivered through a series of training workshops.
- UNREC is also implementing a project to support the Governments of the **Republics of Togo and Madagascar** in their efforts in arms marking, rehabilitation of depots and destruction of obsolete weapons and ammunition. In addition to promoting the achievement of **Target 16.4 of the SDGs**, which calls for the reduction of illicit arms flow, this project will also contribute towards the attainment of the African Union's vision of **"Silencing the Guns by 2020"** in line with its Agenda 2063.

- UNREC is implementing a project in support of the **fissile material cut-off treaty consultative process**. The project includes the organization of sub-regional workshops to provide information on a potential treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices, challenges and opportunities, including regional and sub-regional considerations, as well as the scope of such a treaty.

- ✦ Capacity Building Workshop: Strengthening National Strategic Trade Control Enforcement under the framework of UN Security Council Res. 1540 (2004) (Togo, January 2019)
- ✦ Regional Workshop on the fissile material cut-off treaty consultative process for States from West and Central Africa (Equatorial Guinea, February 2019)
- ✦ Sub-regional Technical Capacity-Building Workshop for Stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Kinshasa Convention (Cameroon, April 2019)
- ✦ Training activities on physical security and stockpile management, weapons marking and data recording (Madagascar, May 2019)
- ✦ Regional Workshop on the fissile material cut-off treaty consultative process for States from Eastern and Southern Africa (South Africa, May 2019)
- ✦ Tabletop Exercise for the Francophone West African State Parties to the Biological Weapons Convention (Togo, May 2019)
- ✦ High-level regional methodological workshop on election security in a rule of law context (Togo, June 2019)

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## CAPACITY BUILDING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

- ✳ Technical assistance and training on combating the illicit trafficking of SALW
- ✳ Specialized support to national, sub-regional and regional entities in developing policies, action plans, legislation and strategies
- ✳ Assistance in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and security sector reform (SSR) 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 sub-regional 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

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