Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) in Somalia: Preliminary findings

CCW Protocol V, Meeting of Experts
Generic Preventative Measures
8 April 2015

UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR)
Purpose

• Provide an overview of WAM issues in Somalia
• Share preliminary and general findings on WAM related activities
• Share thoughts on the use of International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) in fragile settings
About UNIDIR

• Wide Mandate
• Cross Cutting
• Convening Power
• Framing Agenda
• Practical and Effective

“Knowledge for Action”
WAM issues in Somalia: Context

- Over two decades of ongoing conflict
- Availability and circulation of illicit weapons and ammunition affecting security in fragile setting
- New imports from partial lifting of UN arms embargo in order to rebuild national security institutions
- Need for adequate WAM framework to ensure safe and secure weapons and ammunition management and prevention of diversion
- Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), together with UN and other partners, currently undertaking WAM activities in line with requirements of UN Security Council resolutions 2093, 2111, 2142 and 2182.
Resolution 2182 (2014): Rights and restrictions

- Receipt of weapons, ammunition, military equipment, advice, assistance and training that are “intended solely for the development of the Security Forces of the Federal Government of Somalia.”

- Restriction applied / approval required for certain types of arms and ammunition
  - Surface to air missiles, including Man-Portable Air-Defence Systems (MANPADS);
  - Guns, howitzers, and cannons with a calibre greater than 12.7 mm, and ammunition and components specially designed for these.
  - Mortars with a calibre greater than 82 mm;
  - Anti-tank guided weapons, including Anti-tank Guided Missiles (ATGMs) and ammunition and components specially designed for these items;
Resolution 2182: Obligations

Focus: Demonstrate WAM capacity
- The current structure of the Security Forces
- The infrastructure in place to ensure the safe storage, registration, maintenance and distribution of military equipment
- The procedures and codes of conduct in place for the registration, distribution, use and storage of weapons by the Security Forces and on training needs
Objective of UNIDIR Project

• Assist the FGS, together with UN partners, in relevant WAM frameworks in light of UNSC resolution to partially lift the arms embargo
• Identify priority needs, challenges and opportunities for improving WAM for security forces
• Support UN agencies to build capacity of the Federal Government to meet the requirements of the UNSC resolution

UNIDIR support through *assessment and analysis*

• Stakeholder analysis
• Needs and capacity assessment
• Assessment report with action by stakeholders
## Areas of work examined by the project

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Topics</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>WAM context in Somalia</strong></td>
<td>• Context</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Arms embargo requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WAM agreements and instruments</strong></td>
<td>• National legislation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Regional agreements and instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• International agreements and instruments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>National WAM structures</strong></td>
<td>• Policy coordination</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• WAM institutions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Physical infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Marking and registration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Weapons management: current status and ways forward</strong></td>
<td>• PSSM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Accounting systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Preconditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ammunition management: current status and ways forward</strong></td>
<td>• Requirements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Safeguarding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Licensing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Storage site visits</strong></td>
<td>• NISA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• SNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Police</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Priorities and recommendations</strong></td>
<td>• FGS force structure clarification</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Accounting system establishment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Storage infrastructure</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Preliminary findings
WAM Structure

• **Strategic level**
  WAM Steering Committee
  - National Security Advisor
  - MIS, MoD, MoJ, MoNR
  - Somalia National Army (SNA)

• **Operational level**
  Ministry of Internal Security (MIS)
  Somalia Explosive Management Authority (SEMA)
  - WAM Technical Working Group (WAM TWG)
WAM pillars of work in Somalia

- National framework and standards
- Weapons and ammunition delivery and initial storage
- Marking and registration of newly imported / old weapons and ammunition
- Physical security and stockpile management
- Safe and secure distribution and transport of weapons and ammunition
- Verification
- Reporting on UNSC resolution
Preliminary storage assessments (early 2014):
Ammunition management focus

*Due to long term, ongoing conflict:*
- Majority of the storage sites have been destroyed, require refurbishing or need to be build completely
- Large calibre ammunition import by FGS restricted due to UNSC restrictions (Restrictions do not apply to AMISOM)
- Of the three sites visited, none of the storages were equipped to store explosive hazards (including hazard division 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3), but quantities of HE ammunition stored.
- Some existing storage infrastructure adequate for weapons management and small arms ammunition (hazard division 1.4)
- Due to operational need, weapons and ammunition are distributed and assigned to security forces frequently (no long term storage)
- Lack of system over accounting procedure (manual registry)
- Lack of SOPs for various WAM areas of work
- Limited trained national ammunition officials
WAM measures currently being undertaken:

- Centralizing arms and ammunition deliveries into one location for initial storage for marking and registration
  - Increase security and access control, centralize records
- Refurbishing and/or construction of storage sites (for weapons and small arms ammunition only)
- Conducting national baseline assessments on storages
- SOPs in development for physical security, stockpile management (including access control), registration and distribution in development
- Training being conducted and further planned for SNA and Police on marking, recordkeeping, registration, physical security and stockpile management
- FGS continues to work with the UN, AU, EU and other partners (such as expert NGOs – MAG) to improve their WAM framework and practices
Example applications of IATGs in Somalia

Commonly expressed challenges – Technical / Operational
Focus: Use of IATGs (1/4)

Assessment Criteria

Selecting specific assessment criteria:

- **Accounting** as per IATG 03.10
- **Infrastructure and security** as per IATG 09.10
- **Explosive and fire safety** as per IATG 01.50, 01.70, 02.30, 02.50, 06.10, 06.20, 06.30, 06.70, 09.10 and 11.10
Focus: Use of IATGs (2/4)
Example of assessment findings

Explosive and fire safety was the primary concern, accounting for over 80% of measures not implemented at the sites.

While Accounting findings varied, infrastructure and security for small arms ammunition was deemed adequate under selective IATG criteria.

Aggregate IATG implementation at three sites

- Measures implemented: 53%
- Measures not implemented: 40%
- Unable to confirm implementation: 7%
Focus: Use of IATGs (3/4)
Technical consultations
Focus: Use of IATGs (4/4)
Assistance in SOP development

IATGs may provide assistance in development of relevant SOPs, in such areas as Physical security and stockpile management.

Technical expertise by an ATO may be required in this regard.
Achievements

• Established the First Steering Committee on Arms and Ammunition Management.
• Released UNIDIR’s report “Weapons and Ammunition Management in Somalia”
  • The report was used by the Federal Government of Somalia to report to the Security Council on the arms embargo.
• Referenced in the UN Secretary General’s letter to the President of the Security Council in April 2014 (S/2014/243), which was endorsed by a Security Council’s Presidential Statement in May 2014.
• Requested by the FGS and UNSOM to conduct follow up activities on to support WAM activities in Somalia (Weapons and Ammunition Management Project Phase (II)).
Conclusion: General findings related to WAM under arms embargo settings

- National framework and capacity to effectively manage weapons and ammunition lacking in States under embargoes
- Comprehensive controls and management of arms/ammunition deliveries and post delivery controls required to prevent/mitigate diversion
- Support needed to monitoring and/or verification of deliveries on site
- National framework to govern arms and ammunition essential component, including national strategy and action plans
- Dedicated staffing for arms and ammunition management required
- Enhance information exchange stemming from arms and ammunition trafficking
- Use of available international guidelines, such as the ISACS and IATG, proves helpful in absence of national standards in dealing with arms and ammunition under embargo settings, including measuring progress
Contact: Himayu Shiotani
Email: hshiotani@unog.ch

Website: http://unidir.org/
Twitter: @UNIDIR