PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

AMAT 5th Advisory Council Meeting

The fifth Advisory Council (AC) meeting of AMAT was held online on 7 April 2021, co-chaired by the GICHD and UNODA. The meeting focused on two main topics: AMAT’s assistance to states and partners, including highlights from the recent mission to Equatorial Guinea, and a discussion session on national ownership.

Standardised Assessment Methodology Project

The Standardised Assessment Methodology (SAM) Expert Working Group (EWG) met for the first time in May 2021. The meeting was conducted as a hybrid event. It brought together the EWG to discuss the development of tools and methods for ammunition management assessments. The meeting provided an opportunity to review AMAT’s progress and insights from key stakeholder interviews, and the development of a general model for assessments. The second meeting will be held in September 2021.

IATG Training Project

AMAT completed the development of a comprehensive training course on the IATG. This comprised of a policy level training course, a technical level training course and a Train the trainer course. The policy level course was conducted as a first pilot to gain initial feedback and make final adjustments. The technical level course will be piloted in the next quarter. The course material and guidelines for all three courses are available upon request.

Requests for assistance

PERU

AMAT conducted an introductory course on the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) to 25 Officers from the Peruvian Armed Forces. This is the third course delivered by AMAT at the request of the War Material School of Peru and the Peruvian Army. The course covered 15 modules of the IATG and ended with a test. By delivering this course, AMAT has continued assisting Peru in its efforts towards implementing the IATG.

MOLDOVA

Responding to the assistance request from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) of the Republic of Moldova, AMAT travelled to Chisinau from 24-30 May 2021. During the visit, AMAT participated in a workshop with the officers responsible for arms and ammunition management in the country, held meetings and interviews with officials and stakeholders, and participated in a field monitoring visit of an ammunition storage area. The visit gave AMAT information for its study on Moldova’s Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) over the last decade; to advise the MoD on its National Army Action Plan 2020-2024 on PSSM; to strengthen the cooperation with the MoD and with its partners on the ground, as well as to support the MoD in the planning of the next international high-level PSSM conference in Chisinau scheduled for October 2021.

KYRGYZSTAN

AMAT was invited to support Enhancing Human Security (ITF) in providing training to the Kyrgyz military, specifically the Engineering Corps. The training course lasted 5 days and took place in Osh, Kyrgyzstan. The primary aim of the training was to provide knowledge and advice to enable ammunition managers and workers to undertake a stock check of their ammunition and develop an accounting system.

UN SaferGuard Validation Exercise

The UN SaferGuard Validation Exercise in Spanish, which was postponed from last year due to COVID-19, is scheduled to take place on 23-27 August 2021 in Pinto, Spain. The event will be hosted by the Spanish Ministry of Defence’s Verification Unit and will test and validate ammunition management knowledge and expertise of 12 candidates from South and Central America and Europe.

In the second quarter of 2021, AMAT held the first technical meeting of the Expert Working Group (EWG) of the Arms and Ammunition Management Validation System (AAMVS) project to present the combined research of two specialists, one a conformity assessment expert and the other an ammunition technical officer. Both specialists presented the background research they conducted separately on core elements of their respective fields. To meld these two technical aspects of the feasibility study, a “Conformity assessment and Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) technical paper” was developed. The meeting also included the presentation of three different scenarios developed for a validation process based on previous EWG meetings and their implications on the development of the AAMVS.

The project’s website is now online: aamvs-amat.gichd.org. A brief video explaining the project is currently under development.