PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

UN SaferGuard Validation Exercise

In collaboration with UNODA, AMAT organised the first regional Asia-Pacific UN SaferGuard Validation Exercise on 13-16 December in Dubai, UAE. Six candidates participated and were validated to be part of the UN SaferGuard Roster of Experts.

WAM in UN Peace Operations

Between 2020 and 2021, AMAT’s technical advisor substantially contributed to the development of Standardised Training Materials on Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) in UN Peace Operations as a lead training developer. The draft materials underwent two online review workshops in May and July 2021 respectively, and one validation workshop in October 2021 before being piloted in Lomé, Togo from 24 until 26 November. The workshop aimed to collect feedback and input from the invited experts to integrate them and finalise the training materials.

WAM in DDR

As part of AMAT’s assistance to UNODA and the UN Department of Peace Operations (UNDPO) with the delivery of Phase III of the Effective WAM in a changing DDR context project, AMAT assisted the delivery of a training course in Accra, Ghana to 13 DDR practitioners from 27 September until 1 October. AMAT contributed to the development of the training material and is also assisting in its delivery.

Assistance to states and partners

MOLDOVA

Under the framework of assistance provided to the Moldovan Ministry of Defence and National Army, AMAT travelled to Moldova to continue its support for the implementation of the National Army Action Plan on PSSM 2020-2024 (NAAP). From 5 until 10 December, provided a workshop on planning, siting, and maintaining an ammunition storage area (ASA), in line with the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG). AMAT participated in the Technical Expert Meeting on the progress, plans, and challenges regarding the implementation of the NAAP on 10 December 2021 and supported the preparation for the high-level coordination conference on Physical Security and Stockpile Management (PSSM) scheduled for March 2022 in Chisinau.

PERU

In continuation to AMAT’s assistance to Peru, in cooperation with the Spanish Verification Center, a delegation visited Peru from 13 until 21 November to pilot an assessment and discuss plans for assistance with key stakeholders from the Peruvian Ministry of Defence. During the visit, the delegation held several meetings with officials and visited ammunition storage areas to identify needs and recommendations for the next steps to be implemented in 2022.

Before the visit, AMAT had conducted the fifth IATG Introductory Course for War Material Officers. This course allowed AMAT to continue the process of implementing the IATG within the Peruvian Army. A total of fifteen military officers have successfully passed the course.

TOGO

In response to a request for support sent by the Togolese Ministry of Armed Forces and in collaboration with the UN Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), AMAT travelled to Togo from 20 November until 2 December to conduct a series of assessments and hold meetings with various stakeholders. During the visit, AMAT conducted assessments on surplus ammunition stored in three locations throughout Togo and inspected an open disposal site to assess its condition. AMAT met with the Minister of Armed Forces and presented the disposal options based on the findings.
Following the assessment, AMAT participated as a technical expert at National Weapons and Ammunition Management Baseline Assessment Workshop organised by the UN Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

31st MSAG Symposium
AMAT participated at the 31 Multinational Small Arms and Ammunition Group (MSAG) Symposium I Ottawa from 18 until 21 October 2021. AMAT presented on the Ammunition Management Activity Platform (A-MAP). The presentation focused on our progress in setting up an open-source global information platform on ammunition management activities, including relevant plans for the next steps and faced challenges. AMAT showcased the beta version of the A-MAP website and data visualisations.

OSCE Assistance Projects in the field of SALW&SCA
AMAT was invited to participate and present at the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe’s (OSCE) meeting to review OSCE’s assistance projects in Small Arms and Light Weapons and Conventional Ammunition held at the OSCE Center in Vienna on 5 and 6 October. AMAT participated remotely and presented its activities and experiences in assisting states to apply the IATG.

AMAT 6th Advisory Council Meeting
The sixth Advisory Council (AC) meeting of AMAT was held on 23 November in a hybrid format: in-person in Geneva and virtually via Zoom platform. The meeting was co-chaired by Ambassador Stefano Toscano, Director of the GICHD, and Mr Adedeji Ebo, Chief of the Conventional Arms Branch at UNODA. The meeting aimed at presenting and discussing the recent projects and assistance provided to states; the UN SaferGuard Programme and the outcome of the UN Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) on “Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus” (PACAS).

Start of Phase 2
As of 1 December 2021, the project’s second phase has started. The EU Council approved the continuation of the project to plan for the development of the AAMVS.