AMAT attended the Institute of Explosive Engineers (IExpE) Fulmination 2022 conference held on 4-6 April in Reading, UK. IExpE is the professional body for the explosives industry that enables and promotes consultation between experts across different sectors. AMAT delivered a presentation titled “Ammunition Stockpile Management – A Global Perspective” to inform the 200 participants of the ammunition management challenges and responses beyond the present UK scope and focus.

GWHF Conference in Albania

On 4-8 April, AMAT attended in Tirana, Albania the conference entitled “Responding to the assistance from the 2nd European best practices and training”, also known as the PSSM initiative. Funded by the Office of Weapons Removal and Abatement in the U.S. State Department’s Bureau of Political-Military Affairs (PM/WRA) and supported by the United States European Command (EUCOM), the aim of the initiative is to convene European states in an opportune venue to share states’ needs and be coached on the recent good practice developments in ammunition management as per the IATG. AMAT presented on its Assistance Mechanism, IATG Version 3 Review and Update Process, and the Main Changes in the IATG Version 3.

NATO Handbook on Building Integrity in LCM of SALW and Ammunition

To support the research component of NATO Building Integrity (NATO BI) project, AMAT was in Sarajevo, BiH on 11-14 April. The team attended the opening seminar organised by the Inspector General of the MoD and NATO BI, signifying the commencement of NATO BI’s research into anti-corruption measures by the BiH Armed Forces in Ammunition Life Cycle Management (LCM). NATO BI and AMAT also visited Krupa ammunition storage area and the ammunition processing site in Doboj, observing BiH’s surveillance capacities and practices.

Standardised Assessment Methodology Project

A project team meeting was held on 26-27 April in Geneva to review the advanced versions of the Self-assessment Tool, Ammunition Storage Area (ASA) Assessment Tool and Explosive Storehouse (ESH) Assessment Tool. The meeting also presented an opportunity to view the first versions of the Strategies Assessment Tool (SAT) and Ammunition Processing, Surveillance and Disposal (PSD) Assessment Tool. Based on the commentary of the meeting, the team continues to work with experts to update the ASA and ESH tools while further developing the brand-new SA and PSD tools.

Wilton Park – United Nations Multilateral Process on Conventional Ammunition

On 9-11 May, Wilton Park UK – in collaboration with the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and with financial support from the German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO) – organised a meeting on the UN Multilateral Process on Conventional Ammunition. The meeting aimed to support the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on Conventional Ammunition by convening the members of the OEWG ahead of its first substantive session in New York. AMAT made a contribution to the group by presenting and through discussions with the OEWG members: assistance providing and receiving states and partners.

ASEC Africa Security Symposium 2022

On 16-19 May, AMAT carried out a mission in Nairobi, Kenya to participate in the Africa Security Symposium (ASEC) convening governments, security sector industry, the UN and security-focused international and non-governmental organisations to discuss themes related to the provision of security and building of stability in Africa. During the mission, AMAT met with the Regional Centre for Small Arms and Light Weapons (RECSA) and the Bonn International Centre for Conflict Studies (BICC), to identify areas for technical cooperation with RECSA member states.

First Substantive session of the OEWG on Conventional Ammunition

On 23-27 May, AMAT participated and presented at the first substantive session of the OEWG on Conventional Ammunition held at the UN HQ in New York, USA. The purpose of the session was to discuss, in both formal and informal settings, a new global framework to address existing gaps in ammunition through-life management. AMAT delivered a statement conveying a strong support for the global ammunition framework to maintain safe, secure and sustainable through-life management at the national, subregional, regional and global levels.

MSAG Symposium

AMAT attended the 32nd Multinational Small Arms and Ammunition Group (MSAG) Symposium in Oslo, Norway on 6-9 June. The main theme of the Symposium was the ongoing war in Ukraine; the State Emergency Services Ukraine (SESU) achievements, capabilities and needs in Battle Area Clearance, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Demining and Risk Education activities; and the MSAG members’ SALWA assistance projects, etc. AMAT presented on the GICHD’s work and recent achievements with national authorities including the new Explosive Ordnance Guide for Ukraine and A-MAP situational analysis on the ammunition safety and security in the country.

First Geneva Informal Dialogue

Dialogue is to provide an informal contribution to the OEWG on Conventional Ammunition, through a platform for exchange and idea generation to strengthen the international cooperation and assistance for ammunition TLM. The second meeting within the series will be held on 7 July, followed by a report on findings and inputs from the dialogues, which will be submitted to the OEWG as a working paper by the co-convening states.

**ASSISTANCE TO STATES AND PARTNERS**

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

AMAT conducted a mission to BiH on 10-13 April on request by the European Union Force (EUFOR) and BiH Ministry of Defence (MoD) for AMAT advice and support to the BiH Armed Forces and EUFOR in the evaluation of the BiH Ammunition, Weapons and Explosives (AWE) Master Plan which has been implemented since 2014. Whilst in Sarajevo, AMAT also met with the representatives of NATO-Building Integrity (Bi) team and Norwegian People’s Aid. Two visits hosted by the BiH Armed Forces and EUFOR were carried out to the ammunition storage area in Krupa and the demilitarisation facility in Doboj.

**Moldova**

Responding to the assistance request from the MoD of the Republic of Moldova, AMAT travelled to Chisinau on 3-6 May. During the visit, a 4-day workshop was held with the officers responsible for management of arms and ammunition in Moldova. The workshop developed a timeline for achieving the objectives within the National Army Action Plan 2020-2024 and set modalities for AMAT’s review of the plan.

**Peru**

Under the framework of technical assistance to Peru, AMAT visited Lima on 4-9 April to meet with Peruvian MoD and Ministry of Interior’s National Superintendence for the Control of Security Services, Arms, Ammunition and Explosives for Civilian Use (SUCAMEC), to plan the activities and training courses with timelines for the year of 2022. During the visit, AMAT also facilitated discussions between the Spanish Verification Unit and the Head of the War Material Service on Spain’s support to Peru and AMAT’s future assistance pertaining to risk assessments of Ammunition Storage Areas.

**United Kingdom**

The entire content of the IATG have been uploaded into an online database and made available through a web application. This system makes instantly accessible the latest version of the IATG in 6 languages (Russian, Arabic, French, Portuguese, Spanish and English). Once launched on the AMAT and UN SaferGuard Programme websites, the system will allow users from anywhere in the world to navigate the 43 modules, 12 volumes and 1207 pages of the latest IATG (version 3) and locate the required information quickly and easily, with the option of translating any and all part of the guidelines in the 6 languages. This online tool will enable national authorities and other users easily engage with the IATG and promote their uptake in national systems and organisations.

**Stakeholder Outreach**

On 3-7 April, AMAT travelled to Brussels to present the AAMVS concept and progress made until date to a number of partners and EU stakeholders. Opportunities for collaboration were explored with European Defence Agency, the Council of the European Union’s Working Party on Non-Proliferation (CONOP), the Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports (COARM), European Peace Facility, European External Action Service and Swiss Mission to NATO. AAMVS was identified and received recognition for having the potential to play a pivotal role in various elements of within the global arms control system.

During its mission to BiH on 13-14 April, AMAT met with representatives of the EUFOR to discuss the AAMVS project and its implementation. EUFOR provided valuable inputs on different options for the design of assessment processes, to ensure that state authorities are able to complete self-assessments of their arms and ammunition management practices.

During its mission to Kenya on 16-19 May, AMAT met with industry representatives at African Security Symposium (ASEC) to introduce the AAMVS project. In particular, the topic of export licensing process and the potential ramification of the AAMVS to the arms industry, AMAT also met with RECSA leadership on the AAMVS and how RECSA member states could be engaged in its development.

On 8 June, AMAT participated in the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute’s (SIPRI) one-day workshop to discuss arms and ammunition post-shipment on-site inspections and other measures aimed at preventing post-shipment diversion. AMAT presented on the AAMVS project in the session “Other Initiatives and Ways Forward”. The stakeholders were briefed on AMAT and the AAMVS; the project background and status. The meeting provided an opportunity to gather information from the stakeholders and learn about common challenges in post-shipment inspections to further guide the AAMVS concept development.