UNODC approach in supporting the collection and use of firearms data for operational purposes

Side Event
“From Data to Action – Using Firearms Data to Tailor Policies, Enhance Operational Capacities and Foster International Cooperation to Combat Firearms Trafficking”

25 May 2017, 26th Session of the CCPCJ
Vienna, Austria
UNODC’s Integrated Approach on Firearms

- Created in 2011
- **Objective:** To counter illicit arms trafficking and related serious and organized crime, and foster effective international cooperation and information exchange.
- **Global and Trans-regional dimension**
  
  Since 2011
  - Latin America
  - West Africa & Sahel region
  
  As of 2017:
  - Western Balkans
  - Sahel-Maghreb region
  - Panama

Donors

- Denmark
- Germany
- Japan
- Portugal
- Sweden
- European Union
- UNSCAR United Nations Trust Facility
UNODC’s Integrated Approach on Firearms

Contribution of all pillars to achieve and/or monitor achievement towards SDG target 16.4
UNODC’s Data Collection Efforts on Firearms

2010
UNODC mandated by COP to develop of Firearms Study (res. 5/4, 6/2)

2015
Publication of the first UNODC Study on Firearms

2016
UNODC mandated by COP “to continue to collect and analyse, on a regular basis, quantitative and qualitative information and suitably disaggregated data on trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition” and to take into account target 16.4 of the SDGs (res. 8/3)

2017
EU-UNODC Project “Supporting Global Data Collection and Analysis on Firearms Trafficking and Fostering Cooperation and Information Sharing, in particular Among Countries along Major Trafficking Routes to/from the EU”
Refined Indicator 16.4.2
Proportion of seized, found or surrendered arms whose illicit origin or context has been traced or established by a competent authority in line with international instruments.

More information includes, among others:

- Information on seized, found and surrendered items
  (number of items and instances/ types/ weapons modifications/ manufacture/ geographical seizure context/ ground for seizure and related offences/ markings)

- Information on tracing and tracing results
  (illicit origin of items/transfer points/international cooperation in tracing)
Types of information collected

More information includes, among others:

• Additional information
  (mode of transaction and shipment/ individuals involved/ Modus operandi and trends/ black market prices)

• Information on significant seizures
What to do with the information?

- Registration and Record-keeping
- Information exchange to support a joint fight against illicit firearms trafficking
- Addressing points of diversion:
  - Strengthening control and regulatory measures
  - Prosecuting offenders
- Tracing → Identification of point of diversion
- Identify, monitor and address illicit arms flows

Informing and tailoring policies and action plans
How UNODC supports Member States in these efforts

- With support of Panama, development of comprehensive record-keeping mechanism (2017-2018)
- With support of the EU, project: “Supporting Global Data Collection and Analysis on Firearms Trafficking and Fostering Cooperation and Information Sharing, in particular Among Countries along Major Trafficking Routes to/from the EU” (2017 – 2019)

3 Pillars

- Review data collection methodology, develop tools for data gathering, establish regular data collection mechanism
- Awareness raising & technical assistance on data & information exchange, designation of national focal points
- Mapping and monitoring of illicit arms flows, periodic sharing of findings, foster information exchange
• With the support of Denmark, the EU, Germany, Japan and Sweden (since 2011 and ongoing):
  • Supporting the drafting of *national firearms legislation*, including relevant offences;
  • Supporting preventive and control measures such as *marking and registration* of firearms, enhancing *security of storage sites* for firearms and ammunition, supporting weapons *collection and destruction* campaigns;
  • Training law enforcement officers on *investigating and prosecuting* firearms trafficking and related offences;
  • Fostering *information exchange* through group of practitioners and *compilation of firearms related cases*
  • Supporting *direct operational information exchange and cooperation on real cases* (cooperation with INTERPOL, EMPACT)
  • Support *standardized collection and analysis* of firearms data at national and international level
Thank you!

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