CSO Intervention by: Professor Sarah Agnela Simons

Organisation Name: AMAL (HOPE) NGO

Intervention Topic:
Sub-regional Efforts to control the proliferation of Small and Light Weapons (SALW) in security complex Great Lakes and Horn of Africa

In reviewing UNTOC implementation in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa sub-region the following legal instruments are initiatives are referred.

- UN Firearm Protocol against Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms (16 June 2000)
- UN Arms Trade Treaty (2 April 2013)
- 2000 Nairobi Declaration on the Illicit Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) required member states to share information and cooperate in all matters relating to illicit small arms and light weapons, including the promotion of research and data collection in the region and encouraging cooperation among governments and civil society.
- 2004 Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control and Reduction of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa

These legal provisions evidence efforts by state parties to implement UNTOC Firearms Protocol in the Great Lakes and Horn of Africa sub-region. When implemented together their provisions complement each other in encouraging law enforcement, efficient control and management of SALW held by personnel of States Parties and civilians.

- Question (1): What opportunities do State Parties recommend for involvement of Civil Society Organisations to contribute towards sealing loopholes to reduce existing opportunities for DIVERSION OF SALW TO ILLICIT CIRCUITS CURRENTLY INDER ARMS EMBARGO? For instance, to address the problem of arms proliferation via uncontrolled and unmonitored private warehouses.
- Question (2): What RESEARCH opportunities have State Parties created for involvement of Civil Society Organisations in generating conclusive regional data is not available and even the available data are restricted to estimations due to lack of proper record keeping and limited access to information