“Investigative and prosecutorial approaches in countering illicit firearms trafficking and related forms of crime within and across jurisdictions”.

Working Group on Firearms
Vienna, 16 to 17 July 2020
UNODC

Presented and compiled by:
Lieutenant Colonel HJ Odendaal
BACKGROUND

- Proliferation of illegal firearms in circulation
- Acquired through house / business robberies
- Extensively utilized in cross sector of serious and organised crime activities
- Specializing in hiring firearms to criminals
- Utilizing experts to modify firearms
- Erase serial numbers
ENFORCEMENT LANDSCAPE

Establishment of the National Priority Violent Crimes Bureau (NPVC) 2016

Adopted strategic focus areas to more systematically address threat:

- Illegal trafficking in firearms and explosives
- Criminality in control of legal firearm stocks
- Criminal abuse and vulnerability of firearms in state control
- Priority Violent Crimes - Forensic linkages
- Murder - Police officials
ENFORCEMENT LANDSCAPE

Enhanced Border Control

Central Firearm Control Registrar (CFCR)
- National database of all registered firearms
- Issue licences and permits

Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL)
- Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS)
- DNA / Fingerprints
- Reconstruction of serial numbers
INVESTIGATIVE APPROACHES

- Integrated intelligence led operations
- Undercover / Proactive operations (Prosecutor guided)
- Controlled deliveries
- Tracing of firearms
- Interpol database - iARMS
  - Subject matter experts – testify in criminal cases
CAPACITY BUILDING

- Specialised training programs
- In-service training sessions
- Strategic liaison and visits to firearm industry
- International liaison on trends and tendencies
REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

- Real time sharing of intelligence (Police-to-police cooperation)
- Bilateral and multilateral operations within SADC region
- Maintaining international liaison
Thanks You!

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