

Working Group on Firearms

4 and 5 May 2022

**Presentation and discussion of a
multi-year workplan for the Working
Group on Firearms**

Request to develop Workplan:

At the eighth meeting, the Working Group on Firearms recommended that UNODC prepares a **proposal for a multi-year workplan** for discussion and adoption at its ninth meeting (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2021/4, recommendation 46)

Two-pronged approach

The multi-year workplan should follow a two-pronged approach, combining:

- (a) One agenda item on the **scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol**, supporting a common understanding of those provisions;
- (b) One agenda item dedicated to **specific topics and thematic priorities related to the Firearms Protocol** deemed of particular interest by the Working Group.

(CTOC/COP/WG.6/2021/4, recommendation 46)

List of specific topics and thematic priorities (1/2)

In addition, the Working Group proposed **11 possible topics** for consideration in its future sessions (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2021/4, recommendation 47):

1. Addressing and mainstreaming **gender perspectives**;
2. Promoting **victim-centred approaches**;
3. Relevance of the implementation of the Firearms Protocol to the achievement of the **2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development**;
4. Regulation of **brokers, brokering and brokering-related activities**;
5. Preventing and combating the **trade in, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking** in ammunition;

List of specific topics and thematic priorities (2/2)

6. Addressing the issue of **illicit manufacturing** of firearms from parts and components;
7. Establishing effective **tracing mechanisms** through the application of markings;
8. Establishing an **international cooperation** mechanism;
9. Addressing the **role of commercial carriers**;
10. Operationalizing article 10 of the Firearms Protocol in terms of **national transfer control systems**;
11. Supporting the establishment of **national firearms focal points**.

Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (1/6)

Synchronization with Review Mechanism



Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (2/6)

Topic 1 (2023):

- **use and scope of definitions** in national legal frameworks on firearms (article 3)
- **scope of application of national legal frameworks** on firearms (article 4)

Topic 2 (2024):

- application of **offences and effective criminal justice responses covered by UNTOC**, linkages to other forms of transnational organized crime (article 1)
- national experiences in criminalizing, investigating, prosecuting and adjudicating **Protocol offences** (article 5)

Topic 3 (2025):

- Decreasing risk of diversion of **seized and confiscated firearms**, parts and components and ammunition, methods of **destruction** and other **authorized disposals** (article 6)
- differences between **destruction** and **deactivation**; national experiences, and general **principles of deactivation** (article 9)

Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (3/6)



Topic 3 (2025):

- Decreasing risk of diversion of **seized and confiscated firearms**, parts and components and ammunition, methods of **destruction** and other **authorized disposals** (article 6)
- differences between **destruction** and **deactivation**; national experiences, and general **principles of deactivation** (article 9)

Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (4/6)

- Topic 4 (2026):**
- nature and scope of exchanged information; channels and procedures for **information exchange** (article 12)
 - national experiences related to **tracing** (article 12, para. 4)
 - **confidentiality and sensitivity** of exchanged information (article 12 para.5)
- Topic 5 (2027):**
- bilateral, regional and international **cooperation** (article 13, para.1)
 - role of **national bodies or single points of contact** (article 13, para.2)
 - forms of cooperation with **private sector, academia and civil society** (article 13, para.3)
- Topic 6 (2028):**
- national **records and registries; record-keeping** related to parts and components and ammunition (article 7);
 - different **marking types and techniques; recovery of tampered markings; hidden markings** (article 8)

Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (5/6)



- Topic 6 (2028):**
- national **records and registries**; **record-keeping** related to parts and components and ammunition (article 7);
 - different **marking types and techniques**; **recovery of tampered markings**; **hidden markings** (article 8)

Scope and implementation of certain provisions of the Firearms Protocol (6/6)

- Topic 7 (2030):**
- **export and import licensing;** measures on **international transit** (article 10, para. 1, 2)
 - **Content, verification and validation** of licenses and **documentation; information exchange** (article 10, para. 3, 4, 5)
 - **simplified procedures for temporary import** (article 10, para. 6)
- Topic 8 (2031):**
- Regulating **brokering activities;** registration of brokers, authorization of brokering activities, investigating **illicit brokering** (article 15)
- Topic 9 (2032):**
- **security of manufacture, import, export and international transits**
 - Effectiveness of **import, export, transit and border controls;** fostering police and customs **cooperation** (article 11)
- Topic 10 (2033):**
- **technical assistance priorities** (article 14)

Overview of the workplan

Year and meeting	Agenda Item 2 (flexible)	Agenda Item 3 (fixed)
2023 10 th meeting	<p>One topic from the non-exclusive list of priority topics adopted by the Working Group on Firearms at its eighth meeting</p> <p>OR</p> <p>Additional topic deemed of priority upon proposal to and approval by the extended Bureau</p>	Topic 1: articles 3 (Use of terms) and 4 (Scope of application)
2024 11 th meeting		Topic 2: criminalization and effective criminal justice responses under UNTOC and FP
2025 12 th meeting		Topic 3: articles 6 (Confiscation, seizure and disposal) and 9 (Deactivation of firearms)
2026 13 th meeting		Topic 4: article 12 (Information)
2027 14 th meeting		Topic 5: article 13 (Cooperation)
2028 15 th meeting		Topic 6: articles 7 (Record-keeping) and 8 (Marking)
2029 16 th meeting		Topic 7: article 10 (General requirements for export, import and transit licensing or authorization systems)
2030 17 th meeting		Topic 8: article 15 (Brokers and brokering)
2031 18 th meeting		Topic 9: article 11 (Security and preventive measures)
2032 19 th meeting		Topic 10: article 14 (Training and technical assistance)