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, recommandation 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

- **November 2022**: Start of cluster on International cooperation, mutual legal assistance and confiscation.
- **November 2026**: Start of cluster on Prevention, technical assistance, protection measures and other measures.
- **December 2020**: Start of cluster on Criminalization and Jurisdiction.
- **November 2024**: Start of cluster on Law enforcement and the judicial system.
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

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