



*Co-operating to Disarm*

## **August 2010 Activity Report**

### **Validation of Researches on Disarmament**

RECSA, in collaboration with the Institute for Security Studies (ISS), has been undertaking national researches on disarmament in four of its Member States. The studies in Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda and Sudan have been conducted under a regional project on Practical Disarmament being implemented in the sub-region.

A regional workshop was held to validate the findings of the researches in a meeting that brought together regional organisations, National Focal Point representatives, civil society and other disarmament experts. Findings of the studies will be used to inform Best Practice Guidelines on Practical Disarmament being developed by RECSA under the regional project.

### **Development of Customised Software**

Development of the customised recordkeeping database for the RECSA region is now complete. The software will be used by Member States to manage their information on small arms and light weapons for easy access and retrieval.

The next phase of the project will comprise piloting use of the database in Uganda and Seychelles before roll out to the rest of the RECSA member countries.

### **Country Highlights**

- **DRC**

RECSA was invited by the Vice Minister for Interior and Security of the Democratic Republic of Congo to officiate in an arms destruction ceremony. The event was symbolic as it marked the destruction of the 100,000<sup>th</sup> firearm in the country. In the same function, DRC officially launched the commencement of the arms marking exercise to be undertaken with equipment donated to the country by RECSA. Officers from the Police and the Military have undergone training in the use of the electronic machines for arms marking in a national training workshop held in November 2009. The Secretariat will provide technical support during the exercise.

- ***Seychelles***

The Seychelles National Focal Point reports that as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2010 the Seychelles Police had completed the electronic marking process of all its small arms and light weapons amounting to a total of 524 pieces. The weapons include firearms like Federal Gun, Gougar, Wembley, Baretta, Browning, Zestava, SAR, AK47, SLR, UZI, Jerico and Protection Pistol "SAPL.

A total of 1,500 firearms under the Seychelles People Defence Forces have undergone the marking process. This represents about a quarter of the total number under their control.

In addition, the Focal Point has released a breakdown of weapons recovered from pirates who continue to pose a threat to the country along its Indian Ocean Coast:

**On 6<sup>th</sup> December 2009:** Three 7.62 mm AK47 Rifles; one 40mm propelled grenade Rounds and 57 rounds of 7.62 bullets; 40 mm RPG; 7.62 AK 47 serial MH2802 butt (147) Russian type (01) magazine containing 30 rounds; 7.62mm AK F/Butt Serial 56-1 Reg 13022264 Chinese type with one 7.62mm bullet found in the chamber; 7.62mm AK 47 F/Butt Serial 56-1 Reg 28122111 Chinese type and one magazine containing 26 rounds of ammunition.

**On the 5<sup>th</sup> March 2010:** Seven AK 47s and two RPGs were recovered.

**On 13<sup>th</sup> March 2010:** Two RPG Launchers, ten RPG Projectiles, seven AK 47 assault rifles and 7 cartridge clips were recovered.

- ***Uganda***

The Uganda Legal Draft Sub-Committee Preparatory Meeting was held in August to discuss the way forward in the development of the small arms and light weapons policy for the country.

**ENDS**