

The Fifth Inter-Agency Senior SSR Practitioners Workshop

The fifth Inter-Agency Senior Security Sector Reform (SSR) Practitioners Workshop was held on 2 and 3 July at the Greentree Estate in Manhasset, New York. The workshop was co-chaired by the United Nations (UN) Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and brought together over 50 representatives of the Inter-Agency SSR Task Force (IASSRTF) from Headquarters and the field. Also present were representatives of the Governments of Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Nigeria and Norway, as well as representatives from the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU) and the World Bank. The workshop resulted in three broad outcomes:

Firstly, participants endorsed the recently finalised Integrated Technical Guidance Notes (ITGNs) on national

ownership, gender responsiveness, democratic governance, peace processes and support to national security policy- and strategy-making processes. They also provided recommendations on how to ensure the successful dissemination and use of the ITGNs by engaging with national counterparts, field colleagues and international partners.

Secondly, following a request from the Security Council for a review on the UN support for SSR and recommendations on how best to strengthen the UN comprehensive approach to SSR (S/PRST/2011/19), participants defined key messages for the review in the following four areas: policy and strategy development; operations and results in the field; developing system-wide capacities; and partnerships.

Thirdly, participants shared and discussed lessons learned during panels on partnership building at regional and sub-regional levels, and on SSR experiences and lessons. The panel on regional partnerships focused on the UN-AU SSR

partnership and the factors behind its success. The panel on experiences and lessons explored specific SSR examples, including: effective coordination between UN actors to establish an SSR programme in Guinea; the

Security Sector Public Expenditure Review in Liberia; and a security sector review in Timor-Leste.

In addition to these outcomes, sessions were also held on the UN Human Rights Due Diligence Policy and on emerging trends in SSR. Following the workshop, the finalized ITGNs will be printed and disseminated and, later this year, officially launched at a high-level event in New York. Furthermore, the drafting of the comprehensive SSR review has begun.

SSR Chiefs and Advisers Discuss Common Challenges

On the margins of the annual Inter-Agency Senior SSR Practitioners Workshop, the SSR Unit convened and facilitated the fourth Meeting of SSR Chiefs and Advisers from UN Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions, which brought together field representatives from eleven Missions as well as a representative of the UN Department of Political Affairs.

In their discussions, SSR Chiefs and Advisers raised a number of challenges related to, *inter alia*, human resources, inter-Mission exchanges and communication with Headquarters.

In response, the SSR Unit committed to: improving the outreach to suitable candidates for SSR recruitment processes; facilitating the dissemination of relevant documents produced by other SSR field or Headquarters colleagues to all SSR Chiefs and Advisers; and establishing



Over 50 SSR practitioners came to New York in June to share and discuss their experiences on SSR.



SSR Chiefs and Advisers shared challenges and opportunities from their field experiences.

disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, part of the overall strategy, was endorsed by the National Security Council on 3 August, while the National SSR Strategy is expected to be endorsed during

Before commencing implementation of the third phase of the process, UNOCI has been assisting the Government in defining a communication strategy.

The second phase aims to inform and sensitize beneficiaries and stakeholders throughout the country about the reforms set forth by the Government. Considering that the strategy was prepared at the central level through an inter-ministerial approach with contributions from Parliament, non-State actors and international community representatives, it is critical that the primary beneficiaries of the reform – the population – be given an opportunity to discuss, understand and own the proposed strategy.

a structured mechanism for regular discussions between the SSR Unit and individual SSR Chiefs and Advisers.

In addition, the SSR Unit presented the first draft of a country-specific SSR Fact Sheet. All Missions will soon be invited to produce and update the fact sheet on a regular basis.

Other topics raised included the implementation of defence sector reform policy and training, and the need for increased SSR sensitization among senior Missions leadership.

Spotlight on a Mission: SSR in Côte d'Ivoire

This column seeks to provide the reader with a firsthand account from our Missions – an article about the field, by the field. This report was written by the SSR Division of the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI).

After ninety days of collective work, the SSR Working Group (GT-RSS) completed its task of elaborating a National SSR Strategy. This constitutes the first phase of the country's SSR process which was achieved through a participatory approach that included national and international stakeholders. Subsequently, a policy document on

the month of October.

Since the beginning of the SSR planning process, the GT-RSS organized two national seminars and held regular meetings to define the multi-sectoral reforms of security institutions and oversight bodies.

During the entire process, the UNOCI SSR Division has been coordinating all SSR efforts within the Mission and the UN Country Team, and consolidating feedback for the Government through the GT-RSS.

The UNOCI SSR Division contributed to the two national seminars held in May and June by providing technical and expert advice regarding SSR, and by supporting GT-RSS members to organize study trips abroad and internal consultations in Côte d'Ivoire. Specifically, UNOCI SSR Division facilitated and financed two study trips of the GT-RSS to Europe and one consultation with local stakeholders in the west of Côte d'Ivoire in July.

For this purpose, a “caravan for national ownership of SSR” will be organized from September to December throughout the country. It will bring to the people and local authorities a better understanding of the Government's approach on how to transform the security institutions to better match citizens' needs.

The UNOCI SSR Division and Public Information Office are currently working with the Centre for Governmental Information and Communication and two donors



Consultation session on SSR led in Duékoué by the chair of the Democratic Control pillar of the GT-RSS, Mr. Afoussy Bamba, parliamentarian and mayor.

A Video on Defence Sector Reform

Following successful initiatives on defence sector reform (DSR) earlier this year, the UN Institute for Training and Research has produced a video on DSR with the SSR Unit's technical advice and the financial support of the Government of the Netherlands.

The video is designed to dovetail with the DSR Sensitization and Initial Training package which was completed by the SSR Unit in July. The video includes remarks from the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Military Adviser and the Chief of the SSR Unit as well as from UN Force Commanders from UN Missions in Darfur, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and Southern Sahara. A formal launch is being planned for the end of this year.



The SSR Unit supports the establishment of the UNSMIL SSACD in Libya.

Support Visit to Libya

In July and August, the SSR Unit visited Libya for three weeks to support the establishment of the

Security Sector Advisory and Coordination Division (SSACD) of the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). The visit followed an earlier deployment in January 2012, during which time the SSR Unit helped to design the SSACD.

In line with UN Security Council Resolution 2040 (2012) and the principle of national ownership, the SSACD's role is to support the development of an effective, accountable and affordable Libyan security sector, which respects human rights, upholds the rule of law, is responsive to women and vulnerable groups, and has the confidence of Libya's people.

The SSACD brings together approximately 40 staff with expertise in arms and ammunition management, border security, defence, integration of ex-combatants, policing and security sector governance.

In addition to its advisory role, the SSACD will lead the UN family in Libya to deliver coherent "One-UN" support, in close coordination with national justice sector reform efforts. This will include chairing the UNSMIL-UN Country Team Security Sector Working Group.

The SSACD will also assist national efforts to coordinate international security sector assistance if required. This could include chairing regular international coordination meetings on security sector support.

Coming soon...

- **SSR training course in Austria**
From 1 to 8 October, the SSR Unit will contribute to an SSR training course organized by the Austrian Study Center for Peace and Conflict Resolution and the Austrian Ministry of Defence and Sports.
- **High-level Panel on Challenges and Opportunities for SSR in East Africa**
The SSR Unit will attend in Nairobi, from 2 to 3 October, a High-level Panel on Challenges and Opportunities for Security Sector Reform in East Africa organized by the International Security Sector Advisory Team.
- **Second High-Level Forum on African Perspectives on SSR**
On 9 October, the second High-level Forum on African Perspectives on SSR, organized with the support of the SSR Unit, will take place in New York.
- **Experts meeting on SSR and the protection of civilians**
From 25 to 29 November, the SSR Unit and the Kofi Annan International Peacebuilding Training Centre will hold in Ghana an expert-level seminar on SSR and the protection of civilians.

About the SSR Newsletter

The SSR Newsletter, published on a quarterly basis, is aimed at providing an update on recent activities of the SSR Unit and an overview of upcoming initiatives, in addition to sharing relevant information and announcements with the greater SSR community.