AR/082

25 October 2006

SEESAC ACTIVITY REPORT – AR/082
SURVEY PROTOCOL 5 – ‘QUESTION BANK’

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SEESAC has a responsibility within its mandate to gather and disseminate information on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in order to support SALW control initiatives within South Eastern and Eastern Europe. In May 2003 SEESAC agreed to develop a framework and then take responsibility for the future development of regional micro-disarmament standards and guidelines (RMDS/G), which would be designed to support SALW control work at the operational level. The RMDS/G reflect the development of operational procedures, practices, and norms that have been applied over the past several years in the area of SALW control.

As part of the RMDS/G development, a standard/guideline on SALW Surveys was developed (RMDS/G 05.80). To support this RMDS/G, ‘Survey Protocols’ were developed to support survey design and implementation, which are designed to gather substantive evidence on SALW proliferation/misuse and its impact on communities and human security. These survey protocols comply with RMDS/G 05.80 and provide further operational guidance for the conduct of SALW Surveys in support of SALW interventions:

- Survey Protocol 1 - General research guide;
- Survey Protocol 2 - SALW Survey goals and objectives;
- Survey Protocol 3 - Guidelines for research work with the general public; and
- Survey Protocol 4 - SALW Survey – Assessing Demand for SALW.

Building on the existing survey protocols, Survey Protocol 5 – ‘Question Bank’, compiles lessons learned from previous SALW Surveys, in particular how the questions posed in different components of the SALW Survey can be cross-referenced for analysis for the data to be both more meaningful and useful. This protocol also contains a wide range of questions that may be considered for inclusion in future SALW Surveys.

Survey Protocol 5 supports analysis of the threat that SALW pose in any one community and assists identification of what kind of SALW Control intervention(s) is needed, what indigenous capacities exist to support the intervention, and what resources, operational capability and local conditions are needed for the intervention to be a success (i.e. that the intervention has a positive impact as opposed to no impact or a negative impact). At a national level, SALW Control practitioners will be able to identify priority communities for SALW Control interventions and plan for the necessary resources. Survey Protocol 5 may also be of use to a wider range of practitioners who are looking to include Perceptions of Security in a broader security type survey.
Survey Protocol 5 will shortly be available on the SEESAC website (www.seesac.org). Please contact SEESAC SALW Awareness Officer Anya Hart Dyke for more information: anya.hartdyke@undp.org.

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