Welcoming Remarks

by

Major-General Anna-Marie Nainda

Deputy Inspector-General for Administration

during

the Workshop on Review and Development of the
National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management
and
Disarmament

Gross Barmen Hot Springs
Okahandja, Otjozondjupa Region

19 February 2019
• Director of Ceremony;
• The Executive Director of the Ministry of Safety and Security, Commissioner (Rtd.) Trephine Panduleni Kamati;
• Representative of the African Union, Ms. Einas Mohammed;
• Deputy Inspector-General for Operations, Major General Oscar Peter Embumbulu;
• Distinguished Traditional and Religious Leaders present;
• Heads of Directorates and 1st Divisions present;
• Komas Police Regional Commander, Commissioner Sylvanus Nghishidimbwa;
• Distinguished Senior Government Officials;
• Distinguished Consultants from RECSA and Core Elite;
• Representatives of the news media;
• Distinguished invited guests;
• Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good afternoon!

It is an honour and a pleasure for me to take this opportunity on behalf the Inspector-General of the Namibian Police Force, who could not be with us here today due to other equally important commitments, to welcome and thank you all, not only for finding time out of your very busy schedules to come and grace this occasion with your presence, but also for adding value to the work of the law enforcement agencies in Namibia, particularly with regard to the control of firearms in our country.
Director of Ceremonies,
Executive Director,
Ladies and gentlemen

As you are aware, this event brings together representatives of civil society, faith-based organisations and technocrats from offices, ministries, and or agencies (OMAs), and local and foreign resource persons for one aim, - which is to review and develop a National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament in Namibia.

I am cognisant of the fact that you, as participants, have a huge responsibility during the five (5) days of this very important assignment, which is to ensure that our country has a five (5) year robust and forward-looking Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament.

I, therefore, have no doubt that this initiative will make a meaningful contribution to our efforts of maintaining peace, security and, by implication, fulfilling Namibia’s obligations towards global peace locally, regionally and internationally.

Director of Ceremonies;
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is not my intention to emphasise to you the serious negative effects caused by Small Arms and Light Weapons in the country, the region and beyond. However, I should stress that the unabated proliferation of illicit arms detrimentally impacts our society, both socially and economically; hence, the importance of arms control in the country.
As you may be aware, the Namibian Police Force just launched its five year Strategic Plan, which has been designed to appropriately direct the work processes of the Force to the fundamental ideals of crime prevention, public safety and crime investigation. A Customer Service Charter has also been developed to provide greater assurance to the public about the standard of service they should expect to receive from the Namibian Police Force.

There is a need, therefore, to align the plan on the control of small arms and light weapons to the organisational plan and all other important policies of government, to ensure that all these plans are pulling in the same direction.

**Director of Ceremonies;**
**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We are guided by a programme for this event and, according to the programme my job here is chiefly to welcome you all, which I wholeheartedly did.

So, before I conclude, I would like to assure all participants that the office of the Inspector-General will do everything in its power, with due consideration for resources limitation, to ensure that, together with other stakeholders, we implement to the letter and spirit the Five-Year Strategic Plan on SALW.

With these few words, Director of Ceremonies, it is now my honour to invite our Guest of Honour, Retired Commissioner Trephine Panduleni Kamati, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Safety and Security to deliver the Keynote address.
KEYNOTE ADDRESS

BY

COMMISSIONER (RTD.) T.P. KAMATI
Executive Director
Ministry of Safety and Security

AT

The Workshop on the Reviewing and Development of the National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament

Gross Barmen Hot Springs
Okahandja, Otjozondjupa Region
19 February 2019
- Director of Ceremonies;
- The Inspector General of the Namibian Police Force;
- Representative of the African Union;
- Deputy Inspector-Generals of the Namibian Police Force responsible for Administration and Operations;
- Your Royal Highness, Chieftainesses present;
- Your Excellences, Clergy of the Churches and Hon. Representatives of the Council of Churches;
- Distinguished Heads of Directorates and 1st Divisions present;
- The Police Regional Commanders Presents;
- Distinguished Senior Government Officials;
- Consultants from RECSA and Core Elite;
- All Invited Guests;
- Members of the Media;
- Ladies and gentlemen
A refreshing afternoon to you all!
I am humbled and indeed privileged to speak at this very important event, which marks the official opening of the workshop on the Review and Development of the National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament.

Let me take this opportunity to express our appreciation to the African Union Commission for deeming it fit to collaborate with the Government of the Republic of Namibia to jointly fund this important national project to review the 2005 National Action Plan [NAP] on Small Arms and Light Weapons [SALW]. Subsequently to develop a comprehensive, five [5] year National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament [NSPACMD].

The Government through the Ministry is grateful of the African Union in particular, the Peace and Security Division for its commitment, continued partnership and support right from the conceptualization of the Review and Development to the final delivery of this assignment. This event would have not been possible without the financial support from the continental body.
Director of Proceedings;

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Allow me to convey the Ministry’s utmost gratitude to our distinguished Royal Highnesses, Chiefstainesses, clergy of churches and representatives of Council of churches present here today. And to thank all distinguished invited guests for taking time off your busy schedule to attend this workshop.

In the same vein, I wish to thank the National Arms Control, Management and Disarmament Division for having successfully organized and put everything together to ensure that this event is convened.

Ladies and Gentlemen;

Though, the maintenance of peace and security in the Republic of Namibia is the core mandate of the Ministry of Safety and Security; it is also the responsibility and thus, the nature duty of all nationals and people within the boundaries of the Republic of Namibia.

As part of our commitment on Prevention, Combating and Eradicating the Illicit Proliferation of SALWs, the Ministry of Safety and Security issued the Ministerial Directives in July 2017 with the view to effectively address all negative effects of SALWs, Ammunition and Other Related Materials across OMAs and non-state actors, the Directives were:
• To review the 2005 National Action Plan on Small Arms and Light Weapons, which will ultimately result in a comprehensive five [5] year National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament;

• To streamline and Profoundly transform the Institutional Framework on SALWs to conform to those of the agreed international and regional functional model, and;

• To reactivate through reappointment of key members of the institutional framework, which shall be responsible for the sustainable implementation of the new National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament.

Distinguished Workshop Participants;

This workshop is therefore partly in fulfillment of the 2017 Ministerial Directives. Part of the reason why the invitation was extended to all segments of civil society – be they traditional leaders, religious authorities, women, youth and the media is to allow your active participation in the Review of and the Development for the National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament.

The misuse of SALWs, fuelled by their illicit proliferation is responsible for terrorism, organized
crime and human rights violation, which is more devastating than Weapons of Mass Destruction [WMD]. For the last decades and in the foreseeable future, SALWs will continue getting high profile attention globally, regionally and nationally than Weapons of Mass Destruction [WMD] in that, SALWs are the Weapons of Daily Destruction [WDD]. Their use has a devastating impact on national security and socio-economic development.

Consequently, there is a correlation between uncontrolled spread of Small Arms and Light Weapons and terrorism; armed robberies; trafficking in drugs and precious minerals; gender-based violence, poaching and other organized crimes.

The unrestricted proliferation of SALWs causes great suffering and a sense of insecurity, which undercuts development, and leads to the disintegration of the social fabric. It gradually destroy the well-established traditional mechanisms for socio-economic development. SALWs are the tools of choice for criminals. It aids first-degree offences such as murder, attempted murder, pointing of firearms at persons, armed robberies, poaching and the destruction of the environment.

The effect of such a situation is that, citizens will acquire firearms for self-defense. The demand for firearms will lead to illicit proliferation thereby giving a fertile ground for criminal elements to commit serious crimes.
A culture of survival of the fittest through guns tears apart, the very fabric that holds peace and security in our beloved country.

Thus, this meeting must address these legitimate concerns in the new National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament through your divergent views.

**Ladies and Gentlemen;**

I am under no shadow of doubt that, your presence here today representing your respective OMAs, constituencies and parishioners is a clear testimony of your strong willingness and firm commitment to actively work together and coherently reviewing and subsequently developing an inclusive but comprehensive forward-looking 5 year National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament.

These collaborative joint initiatives through a multi-sectorial approach of this magnitude will bring sanity in the regulatory framework, control and management of Firearms, Ammunition and Other Related Materials in the Republic of Namibia.

Finally, allow me to once again, express our appreciation to the African Union Commission for availing financial support to this very important national initiative. I wholeheartedly urge the AU not only to join Namibia during the Review and Development of the Plan, but also during the Plan
sustainable implementation in order to attain the predetermined objectives that we are going to set for ourselves in the Plan.

It is critical that, the new strategic plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament is linked to the National Development Agendas as stipulated in our NDP5, Harambee Prosperity Plan and the Ministerial Strategic Plan.

Consequently, I thank all the stakeholders, Your Royal Highnesses, the Clergy, Civil Society Organizations, Faith Based Organizations and the Law Enforcement Officers present, Senior Government Officials present, the Media Fraternity for being part of this important national initiative.

With these few words, it is now my singular honor and pleasure to wish you fruitful deliberations and declare this August event officially open.

I thank you all!
VOTE OF THANKS

BY

COMMISSIONER H. TJIVEZE

THE REGIONAL COMMANDER- OTJOZOTJUPA REGION

AT

The workshop on Building knowledge and Capacity towards Regulating Brokers and Brokering Activities in Namibia

Gross Barmen Hot Springs
Okahandja, Otjozondjupa Region

19 Feb 2019
• Director of Ceremonies;

• The Executive Director of the Ministry of Safety and Security;

• Deputy Inspectors General of the Namibian Police Force responsible for Administration; Representing the Inspector General [IGP] of Namibian Police Force;

• Representative of the African Union;

• The Police Regional Commanders Presents;

• Distinguished Heads of Directorates and 1st Divisions present;

• Senior Government Officials;

• Distinguished Consultants from RECSA and Core Elite;

• All Invited Guests;

• Members of the Media;

• Ladies and gentlemen, and

• Good afternoon!
First and foremost, I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to our Principal Guest of honour, Commissioner [Rtd] Trephine Panduleni Kamati, the Executive Director of the Ministry of Safety and Security for accepting our invitation to officiate at this important event despite your very busy schedule.

I would like to solemnly thank the Inspector General for directing all police officers present here to come and actively partake in this very important national event, which attempt to ameliorate the lives of the Namibian people.

Similarly, I thank the Deputy Inspector General for Administration for availing herself to attend this event, Madam we know as the backbone of the Namibian Police Force you have a very busy schedule, Thank you for being here and representing the Force management.
My special gratitude goes to the Representative of the African Union, Ms. Einas O.A. Mohammed and your delegation. Permit me to sincerely extend through the Inspector General of the Namibian Police Force our profound gratitude to the African Union for honouring our Government Request for the financial support.

Equally, I would like to thank Core Elite consultants Mr E.D.P. Mvzava, Ms. S. Ndile and Mr Abubaker Ntambi for providing guidance and technical support to this very important workshop;

I would also like to incalculably thank all participants for taking trouble to disengage your very important routine activities at your respective Offices/Ministries/Agencies, including private Institutions/Organizations and travelled to Gross Barmen Hot Spring in the great Otjozondjupa region, to engage in this very important discussions which in the end will contribute to a safer Namibia.
Director of Ceremonies

Finally, allow me to thank Deputy Commissioner Nghiwanwa Shaama and his learned team for successfully organising this important event at short notice. It is because of your tireless efforts and indeed, the professional manner in which you organised this gathering to its realisation. [of course under able stewardship of the IGP]

May I finally thank the news media for having positively responded to our invitation to cover this important national event? Ladies and gentlemen, please, create more publicity of our national efforts in combating the proliferation of SALW. Last but not least, let me thank the management and staff of Namibia Wildlife and Resort in general and in particular, the management and staff of Gross Barmen Hot Spring for availing all the amenities to the workshop participants enabling a predictable success.

I thank you all!!
Review and Development of the National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament

18-22 February 2019
Windhoek, Namibia

African Union Statement
Delivered by
Ms. Einas Mohammed, Ag. Head of the Defense and Security Division
Your Excellency, Mr. kamati - Executive Director, Ministry of Safety and Security,

Distinguished Inspector General of the Namibian Police Force, Lt. Gen Ndeitunga,

Distinguished Deputy Inspector General for Operations, Maj. Gen. Embumbulu,

Distinguished representatives of the Namibian Defence Force, ministries and institutions of the Republic of Namibia,

Esteemed Commissioners and Commanders of the Namibian Police Force,

Excellences, representatives of the faith based and civil society organizations,

Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui, and on my own behalf, I would like to express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the Government and People of Namibia for the warmth and hospitality we have enjoyed since our arrival, and for the excellent arrangements that have been made for this event.

The African Union is honored to be supporting Namibia as it embarks on the important process to review the 2005 Plan of Action on SALW, and to develop a new National Strategic Plan on Arms Control, Management and Disarmament. The African Union highly commends the Ministry of Safety and Security for taking a lead role in this process and for bringing on board the range of institutions and civil society groups to this consultative process. This will certainly ensure that the resulting Strategic Plan is a true reflection of the collective Namibian vision, and that it responds to the needs of all national stakeholders.
Excellencies,

Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Illicit small arms and light weapons constitute a serious threat to safety, security and stability in Africa. Small arms have long been considered as the primary tool and enabler of violence throughout the history of conflict in Africa. In conflict situations, small arms cause a range of human rights and humanitarian law violations, including mass killings, forced displacements, gender-based violence, and attacks against peacekeepers and humanitarian workers.

However, the threat of small arms is not only limited to conflict situations. The widespread availability of arms has a direct and adverse effect on human security and democratic governance. In urban settings, firearms fuel criminal violence, including robberies, domestic violence, and gang activities. In rural settings, poaching, inter-communal violence, competition over natural resources, and cattle rustling, are highly intensified by the availability of small arms. Overall, the continued circulation of small arms diverts limited government resources away from developmental programmes and adversely impacts the potential for investment.

Therefore, controlling the illicit proliferation, circulation and trafficking of small arms and light weapons is at the heart of the African Union’s efforts to prevent conflicts, mitigate their adverse impact, and consolidate peace. Over the past decades, important policy and legal instruments have been adopted at the continental level in response to this problem, with significant progress being made in their implementation by Member States. More recently, the African Union Assembly of Heads of State adopted the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silence the Gun in Africa by the year 2020. The Roadmap underlines that controlling the
illicit proliferation of small arms, both into and within the continent, requires particular focus and renewed efforts. In furtherance of these measures, the African Union Summit declared the month of September of each year, till 2020, as Africa Amnesty Month for the surrender and collection of small arms.

Excellencies,
Distinguished ladies and gentlemen,

Namibia has continued to demonstrate its commitment to the regional and international instruments against illicit small arms. Since the adoption of the UN Program of Action on SALW, Namibia has made steady progress in its implementation and have continued to report regularly to the UN bodies. Namibia is also party to the SADC Protocol on Firearms and a signatory to the landmark Arms Trade Treaty. More broadly, Namibia is a key contributor to regional peace and security office. The Namibian Police Force continues to lend its finest member to Peacekeeping missions in Africa.

While Namibia has long enjoyed security and stability, the exploitation of the porous borders by transnational organized crime elements, including wildlife and arms traffickers, can have a direct impact on illicit weapons inflows and circulation into the country. This in turn fuels different forms of crime, including homicides, robberies and gender-based violence.

Therefore, this consultative multi-stakeholder process is an ideal opportunity to take stock of the lessons learned from the 2005 National Action Plan, and reflect on current trends in armed crime and arms proliferation, with a view to identify and articulate practical and cost-effective measures to address the different facets of the problem. It is important to emphasize
that the success of the Strategic Plan will depend on the strong sense of ownership and collaboration among a range of ministries, national institutions, parliament and civil society.

I am pleased to note that since yesterday morning, all participants have engaged openly and constructively in discussions. The participants have reflected thoroughly on topics of community and personal security, and perception of arms availability among civilians. Important contributions and recommendations have also been made to the different proposed action areas, including stronger engagement of community leaders and religious authorities in raising awareness among communities, changing attitudes regarding arms possession, and serving as facilitators of voluntary disarmament programs. We look forward to the incorporation of these ideas into the first draft of the Strategic Plan.

We are cognizant that combating crime is part of broader developmental efforts in the country, and hence there is a need to be realistic and incremental in the approach towards developing the Strategic Plan. I have no doubt that the current consultations will lead to identifying key priorities and incremental steps that would inform the new phase of the Strategic Plan.

In concluding, I wish to assure you of the African Union’s continued support to this process as it moves forward and we look forward to the adoption and roll out of the Strategic Plan in the near future.

Thank you for your kind attention.