

**PGA Lusophone Parliamentary Workshop on Mobilizing Parliamentarians to Advocate for Improved Compliance with the UN Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons and promoting more effective participation by women MPs in Defence/Security/Interior Committees**

*Bissau, Guinea-Bissau | 22-23 October, 2018*

*Sponsored by*



## **Plan of Action of Bissau**

*Extending our sincere thanks to the Guinea- Bissau People's National Assembly for hosting this important Seminar;*

*Aware of the fact that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons represents a serious and continuing threat to the security, stability, sustainable development and general economic well-being of all regions of the world;*

*Concerned of future and potential challenges that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons poses in the Portuguese Speaking African Countries (PALOP) and East Timor;*

*Aware of the need to review and strengthen domestic firearms legislation in our respective countries to address these challenges;*

*Bearing in mind also the importance of facilitating greater participation of women parliamentarians in this area, in particular because of the disproportionate impact of the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons on Women;*

*Recalling with approval the Adoption of the UN Program of Action on Illicit Traffic in Light Weapons and Light Armaments in 2001 and the International Tracing Instrument in 2005*

*Recalling also the importance of compliance with national reporting requirements under the United Nations Program of Action on Light Weapons and Light Weapons*



**We, MPs and Representatives of Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, and Timor-Leste, commit ourselves to:**

1. To urge the governments of our respective countries to submit national reports every two years on the steps taken to implement the UN Program of Action on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons.
2. Authorize the use of the reports on international arms transfers submitted under the Arms Trade Treaty for the purposes of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms.
3. Promptly adopt the revision of domestic firearms legislation in the relevant parliamentary committees in our respective countries to ensure that such legislation adequately addresses all threats arising in this area.
4. Mobilize and meet with all Members of all political parties with a parliamentary seat to encourage greater participation of women parliamentarians in the Defense, Security and Interior Committees of our respective parliaments.
5. Encourage our respective Governments to actively explore the accession, ratification and implementation of other international treaties seeking to enhance global security, such as the Arms Trade Treaty, as well as Treaties seeking to prevent the development, manufacture, storage and use of weapons. (WMD), in addition to promoting the implementation of UN Security Council Resolutions addressing non-proliferation of WMDs to Non-State Actors
6. Report to the PGA within 2 months of the date of adoption of this Plan of Action on the measures we take individually, in accordance with this Plan of Action.

**Adopted on October 23, 2018 in the National People's Assembly of Guinea-Bissau**

