## PRESS RELEASE

## UNITED NATIONS REGIONAL DISARMAMENT CENTRE SUPPORTS THAILAND TO BUILD CAPACITY IN SMALL ARMS CONTROL

## BANGKOK, THAILAND, 9-10 MARCH 2016

New York, 8 March 2016 (UN Office for Disarmament Affairs) — The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), in cooperation with the Government of Thailand, will organize a national workshop on "Building Capacity in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Control through the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all Its Aspects (PoA) and the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)" from 9 to 10 March 2016, in Bangkok. The workshop is made possible with the financial support from the Government of Germany.

The workshop aims to enhance the capacity of approximately 50 Government officials from various ministries and agencies involved in the SALW control by introducing acknowledged international standards and effective practices provided by the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) into national practices.

Another important expected outcome of the workshop will be to provide recommendations on Thailand's further preparations for the ratification of the ATT. Issues of SALW stockpile management, national legislation, conversion of PoA commitments into ATT legally binding obligations, reporting requirements, information sharing, national coordinating arrangements and international tools and mechanisms for assistance in SALW control, and the implementation of the ATT will be discussed with international experts, including representatives from the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs.

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