



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **UN REGIONAL CENTRE FOR PEACE AND DISARMAMENT IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC TO HOLD A TRAINING ON GENDER MAINSTREAMING SMALL ARMS CONTROL FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF LAO PDR**

Kathmandu, Nepal, 13 July 2021 - The United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD) organizes a national three-day hybrid training on gender mainstreaming small arms control, targeting Laotian authorities, from 14 to 16 July 2021 in Vientiane, Lao PDR. The objective of the hybrid training is to assist government officials and other key stakeholders to strengthen their capacity for integrating gender-relevant considerations into their small arms control programming and policy-making.

The three-day training is part of a global project of the United Nation Office for Disarmament Affairs in support of gender mainstreamed policies, programmes and actions in the fight against small arms trafficking and misuse, funded by the European Union. It will bring together representatives of key governmental departments, such as Defense, Public Security, Women Union, Justice, Education, Youth Union, Customs, Prime Minister Office, as well as the National Assembly and the small arms import / export agency. Participants will gather at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Vientiane, Lao PDR, while trainers and experts will be connected virtually through cisco webex.

Through specific thematic sessions and practical exercises, participants will gain substantive knowledge and tools to mainstream gender in small arms related policies, legislations, and technical operations. The training will also serve to raise awareness on the practical application of key international arms control instruments, such as the United Nations Programme of Action on small arms and light weapons, the Arms Trade Treaty and their linkage with the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

The training will be conducted in compliance with the national health protocol and COVID-19 prevention measures. The use of mask and hand sanitizers throughout the sessions will be strictly observed by the participants.

For more information please contact Ms. Ida Scarpino, Regional Project Coordinator for Gender and Small Arms and Light Weapons control, at [ida.scarpino@un.org](mailto:ida.scarpino@un.org).