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**SOUTHERN SUDAN BUREAU FOR COMMUNITY
SECURITY AND SMALL ARMS CONTROL**

Strategic Plan Document 2009

Executive summary

Introduction

Historical Background

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) ended more than two decades of civil war in Southern Sudan. The CPA provides an overall vision and broad strategies to guide peace and stability, good governance and development in post-conflict Southern Sudan. It has provided the basis for establishing the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS) and for a federal and decentralised system of governance in the States and counties of Southern Sudan.

There are immense challenges associated with implementing the CPA in order for the citizens to begin to enjoy peace dividends, including access to basic services such as water, education, and health, and to experience improved security in their communities. One of the key challenges to the implementation of the CPA is the proliferation of small arms, which are used in inter-communal conflicts, cattle raids, abduction, robbery and other crimes throughout the states and counties of Southern Sudan.

While the introduction of small arms in Southern Sudan dates back to the colonial period, years of civil war have led to a dramatic increase in the volume and sophistication of small arms held by civilians. Throughout the war, civilians were armed by the parties to the conflict and society became increasingly militarised. In many areas, communities, and young men in particular, have developed a culture of holding weapons and of using violence to settle disputes and to defend their communities and livelihoods.

The widespread and uncontrolled civilian possession of small arms undermines the ability of the GoSS to guarantee security and development for the people of Southern Sudan and poses a threat to the CPA. Insecurity undermines the ability of the government to function and deliver services to communities in many areas. It also hinders the establishment of democratic governance and the implementation of key CPA milestones. For instance, insecurity was an obstacle to conducting the census and will need to be addressed if elections in 2009 and referendum in 2011 are to be fair and peaceful.

Establishment of the Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control

The establishment of the Southern Sudan Bureau for Community Security and Small Arms Control (SSBCSSAC, or 'CSSAC Bureau') stems partly from the recommendations of a GoSS community security and small arms control policy workshop held in Juba from 26–27 February 2007. A key recommendation of the workshop was on the need for GoSS to establish a dedicated coordination mechanism for CSSAC and designate a focal point for Southern Sudan to engage with regional and international small arms processes. The workshop also highlighted the need for the GoSS to develop small arms control policies and laws to regulate small arms misuse, disarmament, and possession.

On 30th October 2008 the GoSS Council of ministers created the CSSAC Bureau within the Ministry of Internal Affairs, due to the central role of the police and other law enforcement agencies in community security and small arms control. It was further agreed that the Bureau's role should be to coordinate and support the efforts of the relevant line ministries, commissions and law enforcement agencies rather than duplicating their functions.

Vision

A secure and peaceful Southern Sudan in which communities are free from the harmful impact of small arms, are protected from threats to their security, and are able to develop their livelihoods.

Mission

To build cooperation to address the threat posed by the proliferation of small arms and community insecurity to peace, confidence and development in Southern Sudan. The Bureau works to achieve this by mobilising and building collaboration between communities, government and other stakeholders that are tasked to carry out peaceful and voluntary civilian disarmament, advocating for strengthening small arms regulations and controls on small arms, and coordinating action to address the causes of community insecurity through, development, rule of law and peace-building measures.

Principles

The Bureau shall be guided by a number of principles in its approach to civilian disarmament, small arms control, and community security including:

- Disarmament and small arms control measures should not make communities vulnerable to violence or result in harm rather than enhancing security;
- Disarmament to be carried out with respect for the rule of law – including the bill of rights, the Interim Constitution of Southern Sudan and international human rights law;
- A comprehensive approach, involving a range of interdependent security, development, peace-building, and small arms control measures, which underline the main reasons that forced civilians to possess illegally weapons, will be needed in order to resolve small arms proliferation in a peaceful and sustainable way;
- Voluntary and peaceful approaches to disarmament should be pursued as far as possible;
- A people-driven approach involving the communities who are affected by insecurity and other stakeholders at the local level.

Strategic goals

The Bureau is responsible for coordinating with the relevant GoSS ministries, commissions and law enforcement agencies, State and local government, civil society and partners in order to achieve a number of strategic goals. The Bureau's strategic goals are:

- Lead and coordinate the development and review of Southern Sudan's small arms control policies and laws.

- Mobilise technical and financial support from international and local partners for a range of development, rule of law, security and small arms control interventions that together aim to enhance security at the community level.
- Promote effective coordination and cooperation between GoSS ministries, commissions and law enforcement agencies; State and local government; civil society and partners so as to develop comprehensive strategies and plans to address community insecurity and the misuse of small arms.
- Strengthen information-sharing and cooperation on small arms issues nationally, regionally and internationally.
- Facilitate civil society and community involvement in developing and implementing strategies to address CSSAC concerns.
- Enhance the capacity of government, law enforcement agencies, civil society and the public to address CSSAC concerns

Strategic plan to deliver goals

Short term strategy for the Juba office (6 months – 1 year)

- Create public awareness through dissemination of Bureau's policy, mandate, and Strategic plan and structure to GoSS, states and counties
- Finalise the assessment on community security and use the resulting report to facilitate the drafting of firearms policy, laws and regulations
- Sensitize civil communities on the means of peaceful and voluntary disarmament and the connection between community security and development
- Coordinate with relevant partners on community security issues
- Work with state CSSAC Committees and staff to finalize their short term objectives
- Provide all necessary infrastructure at the Juba Headquarters and state offices
- Finalize the recruitment of the Bureau staff according to the approved structure
- Identify key international partners and forge a working agreement with them
- Identify training needs for Bureau staff and work to identify opportunities to provide needed capacity building

Short term Strategy by State (6 months – 1 year)

- Represent the CSSAC Bureau at state level and advocate for its principles and function
- Build positive relationships with all stakeholders at the state and county level
- Gather information related to community security throughout the state. Information required will include but is not limited to:
 - State profile information, including existing baseline information and initiatives related to CSSAC
 - Identification of all actors and their capacity
 - Community member's perceptions of insecurity

- Early warning information
- Recommendations for action by state and national actors
- Support and facilitate Bureau activities at state and county level
- Identify mechanisms for enhancing coordination and partnership with appropriate actors

Long and Medium Term Goals for SSBCSSAC

- Facilitate the drafting of firearms policies, laws and regulations for Southern Sudan
- Build the capacity of the Bureau so they can fully and effectively implement their mandate

Delivering strategic goals

The Bureau's key areas of focus

The Bureau concentrates its efforts in six focus areas, each of which is comprised of key activities. These focus areas are coordinated by a GoSS-level Steering Committee with the support and facilitation of the Bureau.

1. Legislation drafting
 - Coordinate the review and drafting of small arms control policies and legislation for Southern Sudan
2. Weapons collection/disarmament oversight
 - Support the development of guidelines and standard operating procedures for weapons collection and civilian disarmament activities
3. Stockpile management
 - Coordinate the review of existing stockpile management practices and support the development and implementation of improved stockpile management procedures
4. Public Information
 - Coordinate the design and support the implementation of a public information strategy and sensitization campaigns
5. Regional and cross-border aspects of community security
 - Represent Southern Sudan in regional and international CSSAC processes and coordinate implementation of CSSAC commitments
 - Advocate for national and regional cooperation and support the development of programming designed to address cross-border insecurity and strengthen border controls
6. Community security risk analysis and response
 - Support the development of an early warning and response system in coordination with partners
 - Advocate for integration of community security responses into development and humanitarian programming

Implementing Structure of the Bureau

For the Bureau to succeed in coordinating CSSAC activities effectively, committees must be established at GoSS, State and County levels to coordinate the activities of key stakeholders. These committees must be clearly elaborated, involve the appropriate GoSS partners, and have clear lines of communication and chain of responsibilities.

GoSS Steering Committee

At the Juba-level, there will be a GoSS CSSAC Steering Committee chaired by the Vice-President of the Government of Southern Sudan, and the Bureau will be the Secretariat. This Steering Committee will meet on a regular basis, as required, and will discuss the most pertinent CSSAC issues at hand.

The Steering Committee will have the authority to create or discontinue Sub-Committees, as required, on the basis of ongoing developments and changing CSSAC needs.

State- and County Level CSSAC Committees

At the State-level, a CSSAC Committee will be convened in the State capital, and coordinated and convened by the Bureau State Senior Inspector. The Committee will be chaired by the Deputy Governor/Minister of Local Government & Law Enforcement. At the County-level, a CSSAC committee will be convened and chaired by the County Commissioners.