



Highlights **MARCH 2022**

 **13** assault weapons confiscated by UNISFA and destroyed by UNMAS



Weapons destroyed by UNMAS

 **30** crowd control firing devices received from UNAMID and destroyed by UNMAS



Ammunition destroyed by UNMAS

73,543 rounds of ammunition received from UNAMID and destroyed by UNMAS



PG7 rocket recovered and destroyed in Jol Jok

 **3** explosive remnants of war destroyed



Explosive ordnance risk education in Abyei

 **151** explosive ordnance risk education sessions

 **7** ground monitoring missions supported



Ground monitoring mission at TS-21

WEAPONS AND AMMUNITION MANAGEMENT IN THE ABYEI AREA



Weapons and Ammunition Management facility in the Abyei Area

Part of the success in the implementation of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei's (UNISFA) mission mandate, is the planning, safely managing and operational conduct of Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) activities by the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS).

To reduce the risk from unauthorized possession and use of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) by individuals and groups within the Abyei Area, as well as the control, prevention, and limitation of the influx of SALW into the Area, UN Security Council Resolution S/RES/2205 (2015) were reaffirmed, emphasizing that UNISFA may undertake weapons confiscation and destruction in the Abyei Area as authorized under S/RES/1990 (2011).

During the month of March, confiscated weapons comprising of 13 weapons with 9 magazines and 111 small arms ammunition were destroyed at the WAM facility situated within the Troop Contributing Country (TCC) and UNISFA facilities in Dukra. Additionally the team destroyed 46 weapons, 74 magazines and 73,543 small arms ammunition received from the UNAMID Force Protection Unit consignment.

Lt Alemayehu Koto, an Operations Officer, recently commented on behalf of the Ethiopian TCC contingent that "our presence has had a direct positive impact on the prevention and limitation of the influx of SALW into the Abyei Area". He also mentioned the challenge often encountered in apprehending armed groups since they know the area terrain very well.

Lt Koto proudly explained that he was personally involved in several confiscation events including two AK 47 weapons with ammunition on the Abyei to Amiet road in May 2021, as well as the confiscation of an RPG-7 rocket with launcher at the old Amiet market in February 2021. The AK 47 assault rifles were confiscated after ambushes and robbery attempts in the area.

UNMAS' implementing partner, The Development Initiative's (TDI) Integrated Clearance Team (ICT) Manager, Mr Najith Karunrathne commented that the WAM facility is fully operational and ready to handle all weapons and ammunition received, either as part of confiscated weapons, as well as TCC weapons and ammunition received eligible for destruction. Najith also commented that "currently additional storage containers are being constructed by UNMAS at the Dukra WAM site as future storage for obsolete TCC weapons and ammunition received thus expanding the current WAM facility".



Three assault rifles prior to destruction



Three assault rifles after destruction

IF YOU SEE AN ITEM OF CONCERN, DO NOT TOUCH IT!

CONTACT UNMAS-UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!

TELEPHONE NUMBERS: +211 92 422 4805 (MTN) & +249 90 728 9630 (ZAIN)



unmas.org



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