



United Nations

Specialised Training Materials

Weapons and Ammunition Management

for Ammunition Technical Officers in United
Nations Peacekeeping Operations

The United Nations (UN) Specialised Training Materials (STM) for Weapons and Ammunition Management (WAM) for Ammunition Technical Officers (ATO) in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations has been developed by the Integrated Training Service (ITS) and the Office for Disarmament Affairs (ODA) in close cooperation with the UN Department of Peace Operations (DPO), including the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) and the Office of Military Affairs (OMA), and the Ammunition Management Advisory Team, and with support from UN field missions.

This version has been released for use by Member States in their pre-deployment training for United Nations Peacekeeping Operations. However, this STM will be regularly updated so that it is fully responsive to the needs on the ground. Therefore, we strongly suggest checking for updated versions before a training programme is conducted.

The latest version can be found online at the Peacekeeping Resource Hub: <https://peacekeepingresourcehub.un.org/en/training/pre-deployment>. A link to receive your comments and suggestions for improvement can be found in the resource hub at the same location.

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Preface

Background

Since the Security Council first established a peacekeeping mission, the operational environment has expanded significantly in both size and complexity. In responding to the operational environment peacekeeping missions are required to ensure that the weapons and ammunition for the peacekeepers are managed safely. This brings logistical challenges to ensure all requirements for WAM within peacekeeping missions are met.

To address this challenge, the Department of Peace Operations has developed a suite of Specialized Training Materials (STM) and packages to prepare specific military/police units for deployment in UN missions. The WAM STM enhances these training materials, ensuring personnel are well-equipped for the demands of modern peacekeeping. The UN WAM Policy (2019) provided the first guidelines for peace operations, referencing international standards. This was further solidified in the 2020 Contingent-Owned Equipment (COE) Manual, which mandated new standards for all troop and police contributing countries (T/PCCs) in current and future peace operations.

Additionally, the UN Ammunition Management Manual (2020) standardized the technical expertise of ATOs and improved WAM in peace operations. This STM complements those manuals and policies with a comprehensive approach that enhances safety for both T/PCCs and civilians near UN facilities.

Aim

The United Nations Specialized Training Material on Weapons and Ammunition Management in Peace Operations (UN STM on WAM in PO) aims to enhance the capacities of troop and police contributing countries (T/PCCs) in the safe and secure management of deployed weapons, weapons-related equipment, and ammunition. This initiative is guided by the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) and the Modular Small-arms-control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC). It focuses on supporting T/PCCs in implementing the Weapons and Ammunition Management Policy and the UN Manual on Ammunition Management.

The training objectives of the UN STM on WAM in PO are to ensure that participants gain a comprehensive understanding of UN policies and guidelines related to weapons and ammunition management. Specifically, the training aims to equip participants with the skills to apply UN policies, guidelines, and practices concerning secure weapons storage and ammunition management. Additionally, participants will learn to compile explosive safety cases necessary for qualifying ammunition storage licenses within the context of peace operations.

The UN STM on WAM in PO is structured into a pre-course workbook and an in-person training component. The in-person segment comprises 17 lessons and a detailed Carana scenario-based exercise, designed to be delivered over a 10-day period. This training

framework provides a thorough and practical learning experience, ensuring that participants are well-prepared to manage weapons and ammunition safely and securely in various peace operation settings.

Overall, the UN STM on WAM in PO serves as a vital tool in enhancing the operational readiness and safety of T/PCCs, contributing to the overall effectiveness and security of UN peace operations globally. By adhering to international standards and best practices, this training program supports the UN's commitment to maintaining peace and security through meticulous and responsible weapons and ammunition management.

Target audience

The target audience of this package are Ammunition Technical Officers from T/PCCs contingent who are deployed or yet to be deployed in peace operations who during their UN deployment will be assigned to the management of T/PCC contingent own ammunition and weapons. The materials may lend themselves to a wider audience. The audience for this STM package includes personnel identified as staff officers (including Force Headquarters like Senior Ammunition Technical Officers (SATO)). Additionally, it is noted that the military leadership from member states at their national peacekeeping training institutions, course directors, and instructors of military schools will benefit from these materials and from the training guidance.

Structure of the training materials

Module 1: Knowledge alignment and doctrines framework

Module 2: Ammunition Management

Module 3: Weapon Management

Module 4: Integrated practical exercises and knowledge evaluation

- **Annex A: Pre-course Workbook**
- **Annex B: Lessons – Power Point Slide Presentations & Training Management Plan**
- **Annex C: References**
- **Annex D: Handouts**

Acknowledgements

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For any proposal of update, improvements, or any questions pertaining to these training materials, please contact peacekeeping-training@un.org or unmas.eod.training@un.org.

Any relevant update will be posted and explained on the Peacekeeping Resource Hub website (<https://peacekeepingresourcehub.un.org/en/training/pre-deployment>). Instructors are encouraged to check this site regularly.

Table of Contents

Instructor Guidance	7
Module 1: Knowledge alignment and doctrines framework	10
Lesson 1.1 Course Administration and opening	11
Lesson 1.2: Project Presentation.....	32
Lesson 1.3: Initial Assessment	46
Lesson 1.4: UN Policy, Guidelines, Roles and Responsibilities.....	48
Knowledge alignment and doctrines framework Wrap Up	107
Module 2: Ammunition Management	108
Lesson 2.1: Contingent Levels of Operational Ammunition.....	109
Lesson 2.2: NEQ Calculation.....	160
Lesson 2.3: Ammunition safe storage	200
Lesson 2.4: UN HCC	302
Lesson 2.5: Understanding Ammunition Management.....	364
Lesson 2.6: Explosive Risk Assessment	432
Lesson 2.7: Transporting ammunition on UN operations	495
Lesson 2.8: Ammunition Inspection.....	548
Lesson 2.9: Range management.....	635
Lesson 2.10: Safeguarding	674
Ammunition Management Wrap Up.....	824
Module 3: Weapon Management	825
Lesson 3.1: Secure Weapon Storage.....	826
Weapon Management Wrap Up	902
Module 4: Integrated practical exercises and knowledge evaluation	903
Lesson 4.1: STX ERA & Camp Takeover.....	904
Lesson 4.2: CPX Ammunition Management and Storage	930
Lesson 4.3: Final Assessment.....	967
Integrated practical exercises and knowledge evaluation Wrap up.....	968
Reference annexes	969

Instructor Guidance



General considerations for instructors

This package of materials is not a course but rather a compendium of critical training content for comprehensive weapon and ammunition management within peace operations. This training package should therefore be viewed as the baseline to underpin training efforts for ATO/SATO to be deployed in peace operations. However, when designing the materials, trainers need to be prepared to adapt them to the needs of their audience. As a result, the duration of lessons and exercises delivered in the package may vary.

Concerning the necessary competencies for participants to benefit from this training package, it is recommended that personnel receiving this training are already trained as ATOs. As such, it is expected that they can be fully capable of performing weapon and ammunition management according to national policies and regulations as well as understanding international standards. It is also critical for all participants to complete the pre-course workbook. The pre-course workbook contains fundamental principles and standards for weapon and ammunition management for UN Peacekeeping, which should be well grasped by trainees before participating in this STM.

The pre-course workbook can be found in Annex A – Pre-Course Workbook

Instructor Profile

This training material is best presented by instructors who master international standards and UN policies and manuals regarding weapon and ammunition management and who have previous experience working in a UN Peacekeeping Mission as an ATO or SATO. Additionally, having experience in creating policies and regulations for weapon and ammunition management is important. Specific knowledge of the actual mission where trainees are to be deployed is advisable to deliver a targeted course based on real experience. Finally, instructors should be familiar with and capable of facilitating scenario-based exercises.

Situation Training Exercise (STX) / Command Post Exercise (CPX) Considerations

Contained in the STM are multiple STXs and CPX. These exercises are scenario-based and situationally driven learning activities designed to help consolidate learning outcomes and reinforce the lessons. STXs provide a learning environment tailored to facilitate discussions. They are set in an informal learning environment where the target audience can discuss the principles and concepts of operating in a United Nations Peacekeeping Operation using a hypothetical scenario and specific situations. The exercises will help participants practice theoretical knowledge based on a specific Peacekeeping Operation scenario created for this course. These exercises reflect specific tasks and requirements that occur in operations, enhancing an ATO's ability to perform during deployment.

Methodology: Using UN doctrine and policy, as well as international guidelines, methodology, and their military decision-making processes, participants will analyse situations, tasks, and present courses of action based on the information presented. The effectiveness of an STX and CPX is derived from the building blocks of lesson learning activities and the energetic involvement of facilitators and participants. Facilitators/Instructors should highlight the complexity, threats, and political environment when operating in Peacekeeping Operations. Additionally, they should assist participants in bridging gaps in the transition from their national standards to Peacekeeping Operations.

Training Characteristics

Training could vary for different units in different troop-contributing countries based on priorities and resources. However, some fundamental training characteristics should be respected when delivering a course:

- Training should be interactive and encourage trainees' participation.
- To help reinforce practical discussions, the training should bring in actual examples and anecdotes from UNPKO missions.
- Training methodology should be based on learning activities and practice.
- Training should be evaluated.

Abbreviations / acronyms

For all practical purpose, throughout the Specialised Training Material documents, lessons, and slides, we will use the abbreviation/ acronym "**WAM**" to refer to Weapon and Ammunition Management.