GUIDE TO VOLUNTARY NATIONAL REPORTING

under the **Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management**

United Nations

Office for Disarmament Affairs
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Preface

The adoption of the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management represents an important step towards strengthening safe, secure and sustainable through-life conventional ammunition management and addressing the dual risks of unplanned conventional ammunition explosions, and the diversion and illicit trafficking of conventional ammunition.

To support Member States in the voluntary sharing of information under the Framework, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs is pleased to provide this guide.

The guide provides an overview of voluntary national reporting under the Global Framework, including the working version of the voluntary national reporting template. The second part provides step-by-step guidance on submitting voluntary national reports through the Global Framework's online reporting portal.

Introduction

This reporting guide aims to support United Nations Member States' voluntary information sharing on the implementation of the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management.[1] Its purpose is to facilitate effective voluntary national reporting and to encourage the submission of clear, accurate and timely reports. **Voluntary national reports enable States to demonstrate progress in implementing the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management while identifying gaps, challenges and achievements in realizing its 15 objectives.** They also contribute to shared learning, transparency, and strengthened cooperation at the national, regional and international levels. The intended audience of this guide includes designated national points of contact for voluntary information sharing under the Global Framework and other national authorities engaged in reporting on conventional arms control instruments.

This guide is organized into two chapters: Chapter 1, "Background and overview"; and Chapter 2, "Completing voluntary national reports". This document is also based on the working version of the voluntary reporting template presented at the 2025 Preparatory Meeting of States. It should be considered a living guide, to be updated periodically as experience grows and lessons are learned. This guide encourages users to take the preparation of national reports as an opportunity to enhance through-life conventional ammunition management at the national, regional and international levels.

To facilitate reporting, national points of contact are encouraged to access the online reporting portal and familiarize themselves with its structure and navigation before preparing a submission. Early engagement with the portal can help users better understand the reporting process and available functionalities. The online portal is available through the website of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) at https://gfa-reporting.unoda.org/en/login and in all six official United Nations languages.

[1] See A/78/111, sect. V, para. 34.

BOX 1

Voluntary national reporting: key actions at a glance

The following provides a quick overview of the voluntary reporting process and the key actions involved in preparing and submitting an initial overview and national report under the Global Framework.

1 > **Designate your national point of contact through a note verbale to UNODA from your Permanent Mission in New York.** This is required to receive the unique country login credentials for accessing the reporting portal.

2 > **Coordinate consultations across relevant government institutions** to gather information on national implementation of the Global Framework's objectives.

3 > **Access the Global Framework Reporting Portal** using the unique login credentials provided by UNODA.

4 > **Confirm or update your national point of contact details and indicate the type of report** being submitted.

5 > **Complete the baseline information across the four thematic clusters**: sustainability (Objectives 1–4); safety (Objectives 5–7); security (Objectives 8–13); and cross-cutting (Objectives 14–15).

6 > **Assess the implementation status of all 15 objectives** by selecting one of four options: "Fully and sustainably implemented"; "In progress"; "Under assessment/not yet implemented"; or "Unknown/information not available".

7 > **Provide information on gaps, challenges and achievements for each objective,** as applicable, using narrative text.

8 > **Provide further details or notes on the national baseline for each objective,** as applicable.

9 > **Indicate interest in international assistance** by identifying any requests for, or offers of, assistance under each objective.

10 > **Identify priority objectives** for which further support or focused engagement would be useful at the national, subregional, regional or global level, as relevant and appropriate.

Chapter 1

Background and overview

1.1 Introduction to Global Framework voluntary national reporting

The Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management (A/78/111, annex) ("Global Framework"), adopted by the General Assembly through resolution 78/47, encourages States to submit a voluntary initial overview in 2026 describing steps taken to implement the Framework. These submissions will help inform discussions at the 2027 Meeting of States. Following the Meeting of States, countries are encouraged to submit voluntary national reports and updates, including information on implementation progress, gaps, challenges and achievements.

The Global Framework requests States to designate a national point of contact for voluntary information-sharing and to include updated contact information in national reports. In addition, it requests the Secretariat, in consultation with States, to develop a reporting template that reflects existing reporting practices, as well as the diverse circumstances, needs and priorities of States.

In response to this mandate, UNODA developed a working version of the voluntary reporting template through consultations with Member States. The 2025 Preparatory Meeting of States recommended that Member States use this template when preparing their 2026 voluntary initial overview and that the template be considered for adoption at the 2027 Meeting of States.

The Preparatory Meeting also recommended a biennial reporting cycle, with the first voluntary national report expected in 2028. In addition, it recommended that the Secretariat analyse trends identified through voluntary reporting, provide support and guidance to States, and facilitate connections between requests and offers of international assistance where appropriate.

This reporting guide was developed by UNODA to support States in preparing and submitting their voluntary initial overviews in 2026 and subsequent voluntary reports.

1.2 Why report?

Voluntary national reporting enables States to track progress in implementing the Global Framework and to identify trends in gaps, challenges and achievements. Reporting can also support international cooperation and assistance, facilitate the exchange of good practices, and inform discussions of Meetings of States and governmental technical expert meetings.

Discussing the contributions of reporting to arms control instruments, a research insight from the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research noted that, "In some cases, such national reports are the only source of government information on the status of implementation".[2] Indeed, reporting can provide valuable insights on national implementation efforts and helps the international community better understand common approaches, experiences, and challenges. **As such, this guide encourages national points of contact to view reporting as a constructive opportunity to assess national progress, share experiences and identify priorities for future action.**

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[2] Ruben Nicolin, Paul Holtom, and Anabel García García, *Insights from Reporting on Conventional Arms Control: Supporting Preparations for Reporting on Implementation of the Global Framework for Through-Life Conventional Ammunition Management* (UNIDIR, Geneva, 2025).

See also Sarah Parker and Katherine Green, *A Decade of Implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons - Analysis of National Reports* (New York, Geneva: UNIDIR, 2012).

BOX 2

Purpose of voluntary national reporting

Voluntary national reporting can help with the following:

- Tracking implementation progress
- Identifying achievements, challenges and gaps
- Sharing experiences and good practices
- Informing discussions among States
- Facilitating international cooperation and assistance

BOX 3

Development of the working version of the voluntary reporting template

The reporting template was developed through informal consultations conducted throughout 2025 with Member States, regional groups, reporting experts, international and regional organizations, United Nations entities and civil society, in accordance with paragraph 29 of the Global Framework. Following discussions at the 2025 Preparatory Meeting of States, the template was revised and included in Enclosure II of the Preparatory Meeting report for voluntary use in 2026. Key principles considered in the development of the working version of the voluntary reporting template are detailed below:

- **Focus on implementation progress**: The template is designed to help States report on progress in implementing the Global Framework and identify gaps, challenges and achievements.
- **Purpose-driven design**: The structure of the template reflects the objectives of voluntary reporting and supports straightforward completion by users.
- **Connect with follow-up channels**: The template is designed to support follow-up activities, including international cooperation and assistance.
- **Align with the structure of the Global Framework**: The template follows the thematic clusters and objectives of the Global Framework while respecting the voluntary nature of reporting.
- **Minimize reporting burden**: The template was designed to accommodate different national circumstances while remaining streamlined and easy to use.
- **Combine structured and narrative reporting**: The template combines multiple-choice responses with narrative inputs to provide both comparable data and national context. The combination can yield useful input to understand national, subregional, regional and international trends.

1.3 Overview of the working version of the voluntary reporting template

The working version of the voluntary reporting template has three main sections. Section 1 is provided to include information on the national point of contact and indicate the content of the report. Section 2 presents the baseline by thematic cluster and unpacks implementation efforts for each of the Framework's 15 objectives. Section 3 is a questionnaire to signal particular interest in addressing objectives during a determined reporting cycle at a particular level of engagement.

Section 1 of the working version of the voluntary reporting template

The template starts with information on the national point of contact, to be kept updated when changes occur.

Users can then select the type of report, indicating whether the report is the 2026 initial overview or, for subsequent reporting cycles, if the report has no update, a partial update, or a comprehensive update compared to the 2026 initial overview or the preceding report.[3]

Section 2 of the working version of the voluntary reporting template

In this section, users enter baseline information in the form of laws, regulations and procedures that establish the foundations to implement the Global Framework, to be provided **per thematic cluster**: sustainability (Objectives 1-4), safety (Objectives 5-7), security (Objectives 8-13) and cross-cutting (Objectives 14-15).

After providing the baseline per thematic cluster, users identify the status of implementation **for each of the 15 Global Framework objectives**. In combination with the status of implementation selected, States can then present disaggregated information by identifying gaps, challenges and achievements per objective, in narrative text form. Additional details and/or notes to the national baseline related to an objective may be provided.

Furthermore, States can indicate interest in requesting or offering international assistance under each Global Framework objective.[4]

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[3] See A/AC.299/2025/PM/1, sect. H, para. 11. Please note that comprehensive voluntary updates are encouraged before Meetings of States and governmental technical expert meetings with a view to informing discussions at those meetings.

[4] The working version of the voluntary reporting template can be a means to access the forthcoming United Nations SaferGuard Global Assistance Mechanism but will not be the only way to approach the Mechanism.

Section 3 of the working version of the voluntary reporting template

The reporting template concludes with a questionnaire through which States may indicate the objective(s) for which further support or focused engagement would be useful at the subregional and regional levels and at forthcoming meetings at the global level, as relevant and appropriate.[5]

The 15 Global Framework objectives

Recognizing that the template and the overall voluntary reporting effort, as currently envisioned, is structured around the 15 Global Framework objectives, Box 1 below recalls the political commitments under the Global Framework.[6]

1.4 The architecture for submitting voluntary initial overviews and reports

Where to submit voluntary national reports

States may use the Global Framework online reporting portal, described in Part 2.2 of this guide, to prepare and submit their voluntary initial overviews and subsequent voluntary national reports. The portal reflects the structure and content of the working version of the voluntary reporting template presented at the 2025 Preparatory Meeting. It was designed to facilitate access and use across a range of bandwidth environments. It is available through UNODA's website at https://gfa-reporting.unoda.org/en/login in all six official United Nations languages.[7]

National points of contact, once designated, will receive secure credentials to access, prepare and submit reports through the portal, in accordance with United Nations security standards. States requiring access credentials or a paper copy of the reporting template may contact conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

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5 The purpose of this questionnaire is to allow States to indicate which objectives they are most interested in addressing and at which level, in a determined reporting cycle. It does not intend to establish a hierarchy among the objectives or to shift responsibility. The questionnaire also has space to provide additional narrative or descriptive information on the indicated priorities for further details and context.

6 See A/78/111, sect. III.

7 Videos on how to use the online reporting portal are available here: https://gfa-reporting.unoda.org/en/video-tutorials.

BOX 4

OBJECTIVES

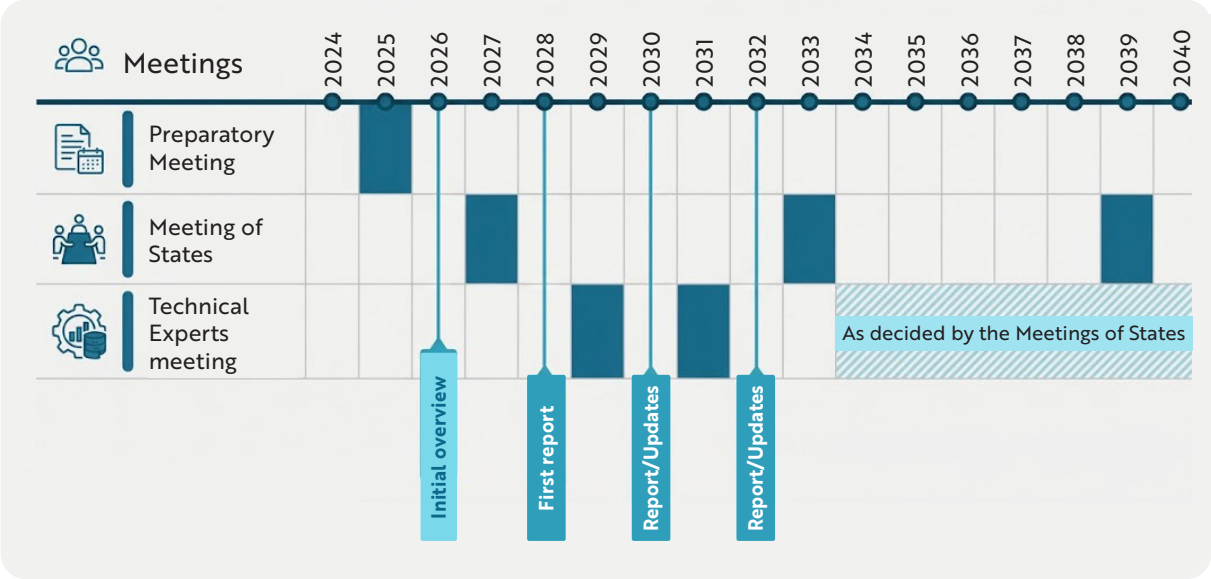
for safe, secure, and sustainable through-life conventional ammunition management

1. Use, promote and, where appropriate, enhance relevant international standards, guidelines and good practices on safe, secure and sustainable through-life conventional ammunition management
2. Adopt specific needs-driven and sustainable approaches to international cooperation and assistance, tailored to national, subregional or regional contexts, and prioritizing full recipient participation and ownership
3. Support, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms that address through-life conventional ammunition management
4. Prioritize the sustainability of relevant national authorities' capabilities in through-life conventional ammunition management
5. Strive for the adequate systematic and sustainable surveillance of conventional ammunition in national stockpiles
6. Employ adequate risk reduction processes for the management of national conventional ammunition stockpiles
7. Establish adequate through-life systems for inventory management and record-keeping of conventional ammunition under national ownership and control
8. Promote supply chain transparency to comprehensively minimize and mitigate the risks of diversion when authorizing conventional ammunition transfers
9. Mitigate the risk of post-transfer conventional ammunition diversion, including through end-user certificates and functionally equivalent documents in accordance with bilaterally determined clauses
10. Deny unauthorized recipients, including criminals, organized criminal groups and terrorists, access to usable cached, abandoned and uncleared conventional ammunition and its energetic material
11. Enhance the marking and tracing of conventional ammunition under national ownership and control
12. Foster voluntary information-sharing on subregional, regional and international conventional ammunition diversion and illicit trafficking
13. Enhance, where consistent with national laws, data collection and analysis by competent national authorities on diverted conventional ammunition
14. Strengthen gender mainstreaming and the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women in through-life conventional ammunition management
15. Encourage cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and civil society, academia, research institutions and industry, to enhance through-life conventional ammunition management

When to submit voluntary national reports

The Global Framework encourages States to submit voluntary initial overviews in 2026, which include steps taken to implement the Global Framework. Subject to the reporting cycle recommended by the 2025 Preparatory Meeting of States, these could be followed by the first voluntary national reports in 2028. The timeline below provides an overview of the anticipated reporting and meeting schedule.

Figure 1. Reporting timeline: Global Framework on Ammunition



The recommended biennial reporting cycle allows voluntary national reports to be submitted in advance of Meetings of States and governmental technical expert meetings. This gives the United Nations Secretariat sufficient time to analyse implementation progress and identify trends in gaps, challenges and achievements, as well as international cooperation and assistance. These analyses can then inform presentations, briefings and discussions at relevant meetings.

Who coordinates the submission of voluntary national reports

The designated national point of contact serves as the focal point for voluntary information-sharing relating to the implementation of the Global Framework. In carrying out this function, the national point of contact may, as appropriate and in accordance with national arrangements, coordinate inputs from and consult relevant government entities involved in implementing the Global Framework objectives. Recognizing that implementation may

involve multiple agencies and authorities, States are encouraged to use the reporting process to strengthen intra- and inter-agency coordination, as appropriate.

States should designate their national point of contact to UNODA through a note verbale. Once the designation is received, the national point of contact will be provided with secure and unique login credentials to access the online reporting portal.

Non-exhaustive list of possible national entities to consult

To facilitate the work of national points of contact, the table below provides a non-exhaustive and non-exclusive list of possible national functions and entities that the national point of contact may wish to consult. These entities are organized by thematic clusters and are intended to help identify potential sources of information relevant to reporting under the Global Framework.

Thematic cluster	Global Framework objectives[8]	Examples of relevant institutional functions	Examples of possible national entities to consult
Sustainability	1. Use, promote and enhance international standards, guidelines and good practices.	Monitoring, evaluation, and learning; institutional capacity-building; international cooperation and assistance; regional and subregional engagements; standard operating procedures; guidelines development	Ministry of the Interior; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; development agencies; national commissions on arms and ammunition; Customs Administration; Ministry of Trade and Commerce; Ministry of Finance and Treasury, including the Budget Office; National Planning Commission; Prime Minister's Office/Cabinet Office; and national audit and oversight bodies
	2. Adopt needs-driven, tailored and sustainable approaches to international cooperation and assistance.		
	3. Support regional and subregional mechanisms.		
	4. Prioritize the sustainability of relevant national authorities' capabilities.		

[8] Please note that the text of the objectives in this table was summarized solely for concision to fit the text into the table. For the full text of the objectives, see Box 4 above.

Thematic cluster	Global Framework objectives[8]	Examples of relevant institutional functions	Examples of possible national entities to consult
Safety	5. Strive for systematic and sustainable surveillance.	Preventing unplanned explosions; physical security and stockpile management; systematic surveillance; inventory management; risk education; urban planning	Ministry of Defence; Customs Administration and all border management agencies; Ministry of Trade and Commerce; Ministry of the Interior; health and scientific laboratories; industry entities; licensing authorities; disaster risk reduction authorities; environmental authorities
	6. Employ risk-reduction processes.		
	7. Establish inventory management and record-keeping.		
Security	8. Promote supply chain transparency to minimize and mitigate diversion risks when authorizing transfers.	Preventing and mitigating diversion; marking and record-keeping; tracing; supply-chain transparency; risk analysis; conventional ammunition data collection and investigation; regional and international cooperation; providing armed violence prevention expertise	Ministry of the Interior; Customs Administration and all border management agencies; Ministry of Trade and Commerce; national security authorities, including law enforcement, specialized intelligence centres and criminal justice agencies or institutions, such as anti-corruption and prosecutorial authorities; Ministry of Foreign Affairs; health and scientific laboratories; INTERPOL National Central Bureau; national transfer control authorities, including all licensing actors
	9. Mitigate the risk of post-transfer diversion, including through end-user certificates.		
	10. Deny access to usable cached, abandoned and uncleared conventional ammunition.		
	11. Enhance the marking and tracing of conventional ammunition.		
	12. Foster voluntary information-sharing on ammunition diversion.		
	13. Enhance data collection and analysis on diverted conventional ammunition.		

Thematic cluster	Global Framework objectives[8]	Examples of relevant institutional functions	Examples of possible national entities to consult
Cross-cutting	14. Strengthen gender mainstreaming and women's participation in ammunition management.	Gender mainstreaming; women's participation; supply-chain transparency and data collection; providing armed violence prevention expertise and analysis on the differential impacts of ammunition diversion	Inter-institutional working groups; gender and equality agencies; non-governmental organizations and civil society, academia, research institutions; industry entities; public safety and security offices; legislative bodies; Prime Minister's Office/Cabinet Office; and national audit and oversight bodies
	15. Encourage multi-stakeholder cooperation.		

Chapter 2

Completing voluntary national reports

2.1 Working version of the voluntary reporting template — in detail

This section provides detailed guidance on how to complete voluntary national reports using the reporting template. It also includes illustrative examples to help users understand what information may be included in each field.

Note: All text shown in red throughout this guide is for illustrative purposes only. It does not form part of the reporting template and does not refer to any real country or situation. The examples are intended solely to help users consider possible responses.

Section 1: Information on the national point of contact and content of the report

Section 1 of the working version of the voluntary reporting template requests two types of information: information on the national point of contact; and an indication of whether the content of the report is an initial overview or, in future reporting cycles, represents "no update", "partial update", or "comprehensive update", as compared to the preceding cycle.

Subsection 1A: National point of contact

The first part of Section 1 (subsection 1A) seeks information on the national point of contact or, if necessary, updates to the contact information for the national point of contact, as shown below.

National point of contact

Provide details of the national point of contact designated for voluntary information-sharing related to the implementation of the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management.

(a) Name:

(b) Organization or agency:

(c) Department or unit:

(d) Title:

(e) Address:

(f) Telephone:

(g) Email:

(h) Date:

Subsection 1B: Content of report

The second part of Section 1 (subsection 1B) is where users indicate whether the report being completed is the voluntary initial overview in 2026 (i.e., "Initial report") or a subsequent report or update. The user would also indicate the reporting cycle for the report or update.

Type	Check applicable box	Reporting cycle
Initial report		
No update		
Partial update		
Comprehensive update		

Practical examples for Section 1

For the submission of voluntary initial overviews in 2026, users can mark the "Initial report" option and note that it represents the "2026" reporting cycle, as shown below in red.

Type	Check applicable box	Reporting cycle
Initial report	X	2026
No update		
Partial update		
Comprehensive update		

As currently envisioned, a State's 2028 report would also include information on gaps, challenges, and achievements identified during 2027, fundamentally reporting on observations made during the 2027-2028 period. Should a State choose to build the 2028 report from their voluntary initial overview in 2026 by selecting "Partial update", then subsection 1B would look like the example below.

Type	Check applicable box	Reporting cycle
Initial report		
No update		
Partial update	X	2028
Comprehensive update		

It is important to note that a "Comprehensive update" is encouraged before Meetings of States.

Section 2: Reporting on the implementation of the Global Framework

Section 2 is the core of the reporting template. In this section, Member States:

- Provide information on their national baseline, including relevant laws, regulations and procedures at the thematic cluster level
- Select the status of implementation of each Global Framework objective and related information on the following:
  - Gaps, challenges and achievements
  - Additional details and notes on the baseline
- Indicate any interest in requesting or offering international assistance.

National baseline per thematic cluster

The first line of Section 2 offers space to present the national baseline. The baseline is intended for States to present the laws, regulations and procedures that form the foundation for implementing the Global Framework.[9] The baseline fields will be grouped by thematic cluster, namely: sustainability (Objectives 1–4); safety (Objectives 5–7); security (Objectives 8–13); and cross-cutting (Objectives 14–15). See the example below for the "Sustainability cluster" baseline.

Sustainability cluster (Objectives 1–4)
Please share the national baseline in the form of laws, regulations and procedures that form the foundation for implementing the sustainability cluster.

Reporting on the implementation of each Global Framework objective

After the baseline at the thematic cluster-level, the working version of the voluntary reporting template then provides an opportunity for States to report the following information for each of the 15 Global Framework objectives:

- The status of national implementation and related information on the following:
  - Gaps, challenges, and achievements
  - Any additional details and notes on the baseline
- Requesting or offering international assistance

See below an example for reporting on the implementation of Objective 1.

1. Use, promote and, where appropriate, enhance relevant international standards, guidelines and good practices on safe, secure and sustainable through-life conventional ammunition management	
Select the statement that best describes the status of national implementation of the objective (or national measures and processes that achieve comparable results): 1. Fully and sustainably implemented ☐ 2. In progress ☐ 3. Under assessment, not yet implemented ☐ 4. Unknown/information not available ☐	
Gaps	*Please comment on gaps in the implementation of this objective, if applicable*
Challenges	*Please comment on challenges in the implementation of this objective, if applicable*

[9] Voluntary baseline updates can be presented after the initial voluntary overview, as necessary.

Achievements	*Please comment on achievements in the implementation of this objective, if applicable*
Additional details and notes on the baseline	*Please provide any additional objective-specific details and/or notes on the national baseline*
Select the applicable option for requesting or offering international assistance: Request: YES ☐ NO ☐ Offer: YES ☐ NO ☐	

Selecting the status of national implementation

States can select one of four multiple-choice options for reporting on the status of national implementation for each Global Framework objective. The user must select the box that is most appropriate for the determined objective at a determined reporting cycle, choosing from the options below:

1. **Fully and sustainably implemented**: This status indicates that processes are in place to fully implement the objective. The processes are optimized and sustained to ensure long-term effectiveness and alignment with national priorities and context. This includes continuous monitoring, evaluation and improvement to maintain the achieved outcomes — that is, the focus is on continuous optimization. The optimizing effort may involve regular updates to policies, procedures, practices and/or training to adapt to changing circumstances and ensure sustainability.
2. **In progress**: This status indicates that steps are being taken to implement the objective. In accordance with national priorities, the implementation process is ongoing, and efforts are being made to establish the processes for fully achieving the objective. Steps taken could involve planning, resource allocation, training, initial implementation efforts, partial implementation and international assistance.
3. **Under assessment, not yet implemented**: This status indicates that the objective is under review to determine how it aligns with national priorities and needs and to identify potential challenges in its implementation. The review may involve assessments, consultation processes and international assistance requests.
4. **Unknown/information not available**: This status indicates that there is no information available regarding the status of implementation of the objective. No relevant national processes or priorities have been identified or documented. This option could potentially reflect a need for initial assessments or baseline studies to better understand the current situation.

Gaps, challenges, and achievements

After selecting the status of implementation, States are encouraged to provide additional information in narrative form on gaps, challenges and achievements (see descriptions below) related to each Global Framework objective:

- **Gaps**: Shortcomings or deficiencies that may affect implementation, such as insufficient national policies or legal frameworks; deficient data and/or data monitoring processes; limited inter-agency cooperation and exchanges; and limited institutional capacity and/or technical expertise
- **Challenges**: Obstacles that hinder implementation, such as financial, technical or operational constraints, identified risks or competing priorities
- **Achievements**: Positive developments, progress made, lessons learned, good practices identified, or improvements achieved

These narrative fields are intended to complement the implementation status selected above. States are encouraged to explain the factors that informed their assessment of the status of national implementation and, where relevant, highlight progress made or actions taken to address identified gaps and challenges.

In the field for "Additional details and notes on the baseline", users can provide any objective-specific information relevant to the national baseline or implementation of the specific objective (since the baseline was first presented at the thematic cluster level).

International assistance

The last line in Section 2, allows users to indicate a national interest in requesting or offering international assistance under each Global Framework objective. If users select the "Yes" option to either request or offer assistance, they are encouraged to provide more detailed information on the offer or request.[10]

Practical examples for Section 2

The baseline is designed for States to present the laws, regulations and procedures that establish the foundations for implementing the Global Framework. The baseline fields will be grouped by thematic cluster: sustainability (Objectives 1-4); safety (Objectives 5-7); security (Objectives 8-13); and cross-cutting (Objectives 14-15). Please note that, in addition to the

[10] After the initial overview in 2026, once the Global Assistance Mechanism of the Global Framework is operational under the United Nations SaferGuard programme, the template will prompt users (who select "Yes") to complete a more detailed international assistance form and submit it to the United Nations SaferGuard programme, combining applicable objectives when requesting or offering international assistance. This integration is designed to link reporting under the Global Framework with its Global Assistance Mechanism, thereby helping to connect offers of and requests for assistance in conventional ammunition management.

legal frameworks (laws, regulations, and procedures), **more specific operational protocols, measures, practices, processes and institutional arrangements could also be important for this baseline section**.

To complete the baseline information, per cluster, States can include pre-existing (before the adoption of the Global Framework) and recently adopted laws, policies, legislation and acts that regulate conventional ammunition management, standard operating procedures and operational practices, such as surveillance of stockpiles, tracking and monitoring standards, as well as compliance systems. States are also encouraged to share, for example, other signed and/or adopted international and regional instruments that are considered legally or politically binding and perceived as relevant to through-life conventional ammunition management, including road maps, action plans, working groups and other structured strategic processes.[11] See the example below for the "Sustainability cluster" baseline.

Sustainability cluster (Objectives 1–4)
This is the space to share the national baseline in the form of laws, regulations and procedures that establish the foundations to implement the sustainability cluster (Objectives 1-4). The baseline can include pre-existing measures (before the adoption of the Global Framework). In addition to pre-existing measures, specific measures taken since the adoption of the Global Framework until the current reporting date are particularly encouraged.

The next fields in Section 2 start with a multiple-choice option to indicate the status of implementation, followed by space for gaps, challenges and achievements, as well as additional details and notes on the baseline, per objective. **These lines should be read in conjunction with each other because they are designed to complement one another, building on incremental details provided (i.e., the multiple-choice response is the foundation, and the gaps, challenges and achievements, as well as additional details and notes to the baseline, are designed to expand on the foundational response with more detailed information).**

These lines and their interplay are repeated for the 15 Global Framework objectives. Specific steps taken since the adoption of the Global Framework (or, in future cycles, since the previous reporting cycle) until the current reporting date are particularly encouraged.

The narrative fields (second column) should be used to provide context for the implementation status selected for each objective. States that select "Fully and sustainably implemented" are encouraged to use the "Achievements" field to describe the measures, good practices or outcomes that support this assessment.

[11] It is important to note that, when including information on the baseline, States should focus on laws, policies, legislation and acts having a direct bearing on through-life conventional ammunition management, rather than on broader conventional arms control matters. Such a focus would help support voluntary information-sharing under the Global Framework.

States selecting "In progress", "Under assessment, not yet implemented" or "Unknown/ Information not available" are encouraged to use the "Gaps" and "Challenges" fields to explain the factors underlying their assessment. Where relevant, States may also use the "Achievements" field to highlight progress made, including ongoing initiatives, new policies, capacity-building efforts or other positive developments.

The example below illustrates how narrative information can be used to complement the implementation status selected for a particular objective.

3. Support, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms that address through-life conventional ammunition management	
Select the statement that best describes the status of national implementation of the objective (or national measures and processes that achieve comparable results): 1. Fully and sustainably implemented ☒ 2. In progress ☐ 3. Under assessment, not yet implemented ☐ 4. Unknown/information not available ☐	
Gaps	*Please comment on gaps in the implementation of this objective, if applicable*
Challenges	*Please comment on challenges in the implementation of this objective, if applicable*
Achievements	• Development of a comprehensive subregional road map to enhance through-life conventional ammunition management; and • Establishment of a dedicated subregional working group to voluntarily share good practices on through-life conventional ammunition management.
Additional details and notes on the baseline	*Please provide any additional objective-specific details and/or notes on the national baseline*

The "Additional details and notes on the baseline" field allows States to provide objective-specific information that complements the national baseline, which was first presented at the thematic cluster level. This may include relevant laws, regulations, procedures, operational practices, institutional arrangements, or other measures that support the implementation of the specific objective.

When describing gaps, challenges and achievements, or additional information, States are encouraged to consider the objective itself, as well as any relevant enabling measures and the rationale for the objective, as described in the Annex to the Global Framework.

The final field in Section 2 allows States to indicate whether they wish to request or offer international assistance under a particular objective. An example for Objective 7 is provided below.

4. Establish adequate through-life systems for inventory management and record-keeping of conventional ammunition under national ownership and control
Select the applicable option for requesting or offering international assistance: Request: YES ☒ NO ☐ Offer: YES ☐ NO ☐

In the example above, the State is signalling that, to build national capacities and enhance the implementation of this objective, there is interest in receiving support to, for example, strengthen through-life inventory management and record-keeping systems. This exercise, done at the objective-level, will help UNODA connect requests and offers for assistance submitted under the same Global Framework objective, when possible and appropriate.

For States reporting through the online portal, narrative space is automatically provided for users to describe the request or offer in more detail.[12] For those reporting in paper format, States are encouraged to include a request or offer for assistance as an annex to their paper submissions.

It is important to note that when requesting or offering international assistance, a detailed submission would facilitate the work of UNODA in finding support for the open requests or offers for assistance, under the forthcoming United Nations SaferGuard Global Assistance Mechanism. Information that would be useful to include in a request or offer for assistance includes, for example:

- Type of assistance required or offered[13]
- Level of urgency (e.g., focus on urgent support or on sustainability of national capacities)

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12 For the voluntary initial overviews in 2026, the online reporting portal will include a pop-up box for narrative text when users select "Yes" to either request or offer international assistance. This space allows for more detailed information on the request or offer.

13 Once operational, requesting entities can expect the Global Assistance Mechanism to support by deploying the Quick-Response Mechanism for high-risk situations, when appropriate and possible, under an urgent track for assistance. The Quick-Response Mechanism is designed to provide immediate assistance responding to accidental explosions, significant diversion and immediate threats and risks. In parallel, the types of assistance that can be brokered through a sustainable track, include, but are not limited to support with (a) formulating and advancing requests, concept notes and project designs; (b) advancing voluntary assessments, when appropriate and possible; (c) navigating the process of connecting with and securing support from funding mechanisms, assistance providers and consulting entities; (d) conducting nationally owned comprehensive assessments and feasibility studies; (e) providing technical, material (including financial and technology transfers) and operational support and implementation; (f) sensitization and awareness raising campaigns; (g) producing research and intelligence gathering; (h) providing technical, legal and strategic advice, reviews or support to align national regulations and/or practices with international and regional instruments and/or standards; and (i) providing training and capacity-building efforts, with a "train-the-trainers" approach as a stand-out practice to transfer technical expertise. These types of assistance can be designed to advance one or more of the 15 objectives in the Global Framework, and the assistance can intervene at any point along the conventional ammunition life cycle, from manufacture to eventual use or disposal.

- *For assistance requests only*: Project design, if any project design already exists, including objectives, projected outcomes, timelines and other applicable Global Framework objectives
- Any existing regional or subregional approaches and coordination with other forms of international assistance, including other engagements with global or regional assistance mechanisms
- *For assistance requests only*: Any existing assessments, including self-assessments
- Partnerships with or interest in any technical assistance provider(s), if any
- Budget range
- National ownership considerations, expected national contributions (e.g., in-kind or in cash) and/or expected political will to sustainability of capacities
- Preferred level of visibility (e.g., fully public or restricted distribution).

Section 3: Questionnaire on priorities

Section 3 of the reporting template allows the user to identify priority Global Framework objectives for implementation at the national level and for engagement at the regional and global level, at a determined reporting cycle. It also provides space to explain these priorities in greater detail.

Questionnaire

The Section 3 questionnaire is an opportunity for users to indicate in the "Priority" column (with an "X") which objectives require further support or consideration for implementation at the national level, as well as focused engagement at the subregional and regional levels and at forthcoming meetings at the global level, as relevant and appropriate. If applicable, users can select the three levels for each applicable objective.

The questionnaire is intended to help States signal areas of interest for future action, engagement or support. It does not establish a hierarchy among objectives or alter States' responsibilities for implementation.[14]

[14] Please note that the objectives in this table were summarized solely for concision to fit the text into the table. For the full text of the objectives, see A/78/111, annex.

Global Framework objectives	Priority		
	National	Subregional and regional	Global
1. Use, promote and enhance international standards, guidelines and good practices.			
2. Adopt needs-driven, tailored and sustainable approaches to international cooperation and assistance.			
3. Support regional and subregional mechanisms.			
4. Prioritize the sustainability of relevant national authorities' capabilities.			
5. Strive for systematic and sustainable surveillance.			
6. Employ risk reduction processes.			
7. Establish inventory management and record-keeping.			
8. Promote supply chain transparency to minimize and mitigate diversion risks when authorizing transfers.			
9. Mitigate the risk of post-transfer diversion, including through end user certificates.			
10. Deny access to useable cached, abandoned and uncleared conventional ammunition.			
11. Enhance the marking and tracing of conventional ammunition.			
12. Foster voluntary information-sharing on ammunition diversion.			
13. Enhance data collection and analysis on diverted conventional ammunition.			
14. Strengthen gender mainstreaming and women's participation in ammunition management.			
15. Encourage multi-stakeholder cooperation.			

Additional information

The final lines in Section 3 provide space to elaborate on the priorities identified and provide any additional information they consider relevant.

Provide additional information below, as needed
• **National:**
• **Subregional and regional:**
• **Global:**

Practical examples for Section 3

For the questionnaire, States can indicate priorities in a non-exclusive manner, meaning that all the appropriate objectives can be marked, and all the appropriate levels can also be marked. For example, in the image below, the user has expressed interest in gathering further support for implementation at the national level for Objective 11 (which can be a complementary signal to any interest expressed in the preceding section, Section 2, in receiving international assistance under this objective), as well as focused engagement at the subregional and regional levels and at forthcoming meetings at the global level.

Global Framework objectives	Priority		
	National	Subregional and regional	Global
1. Use, promote and enhance international standards, guidelines and good practices.			
2. Adopt needs-driven, tailored and sustainable approaches to international cooperation and assistance.			
3. Support regional and subregional mechanisms.			
4. Prioritize the sustainability of relevant national authorities' capabilities.			
5. Strive for systematic and sustainable surveillance.			
6. Employ risk reduction processes.			
7. Establish inventory management and record-keeping.			

Global Framework objectives	Priority		
	National	Subregional and regional	Global
8. Promote supply chain transparency to minimize and mitigate diversion risks when authorizing transfers.			
9. Mitigate the risk of post-transfer diversion, including through end user certificates.			
10. Deny access to useable cached, abandoned and uncleared conventional ammunition.			
11. Enhance the marking and tracing of conventional ammunition.	X	X	X
12. Foster voluntary information-sharing on ammunition diversion.			
13. Enhance data collection and analysis on diverted conventional ammunition.			
14. Strengthen gender mainstreaming and women's participation in ammunition management.			
15. Encourage multi-stakeholder cooperation.			

In the field allocated for additional information, States are encouraged to share more details on their questionnaire selections. For example, if a State selected the "National", "Subregional and regional", and "Global" levels in the "Priority" column, then the text space can be used to unpack that vision and elaborate on how engagement at those levels can be maximized to improve the implementation of Objective 11. See the sample text in red below reflecting interests at each level in reference to Objective 11.

Provide additional information below, as needed
• **National**: OB11: Interest in improving digitalized record-keeping; and, as signalled in Section 2, readiness to receive international assistance to bolster national capacities in this aspect.
• **Subregional and regional**: OB11: Interest in a voluntary focused exchange of good practices for sublot small-calibre ammunition marking and detailed record-keeping at the subregional level, particularly with neighbouring countries.
• **Global**: OB11: Interest in learning from global emerging technologies (including potential cost implications) and new research focused on new possibilities for marking and tracking small-calibre conventional ammunition.

Finally, if the user is providing additional information on more than one Global Framework objective, please indicate, as above, which objective is being referenced. As a shorthand, "OB" and the Global Framework objective number (e.g., "OB11") can be used.

2.2 Walk-through of the online reporting portal

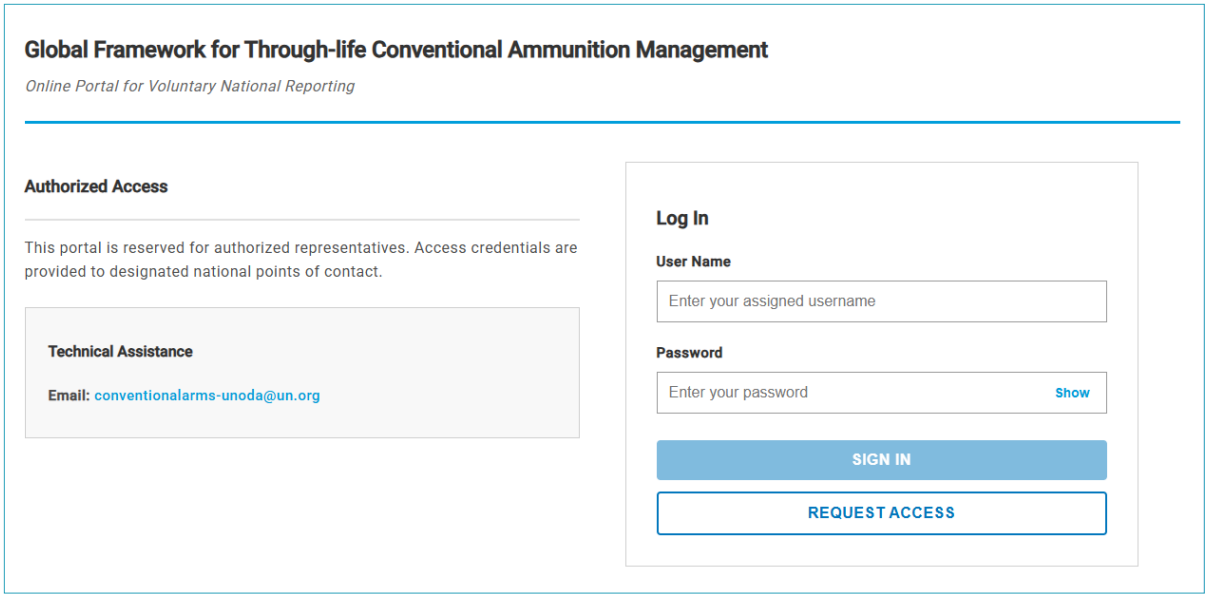
This section focuses on how to submit voluntary national reports via the online portal. As such, this section will be presented as a step-by-step guide. The online reporting platform is accessible here: https://gfa-reporting.unoda.org/en/home

Please note that the online reporting portal has been developed based on the working version of the voluntary reporting template. As such, its layout and structure closely mirror the paper format and include functionalities that allow users to save drafts electronically and/or print them. The draft-saving feature may be particularly useful for national authorities that need to gather inputs and/or obtain approvals from multiple national institutions over an extended period.

In addition, please note that updates to the online portal and changes in functionality may not necessarily be reflected in the screenshots below, as the portal is continuously evolving.

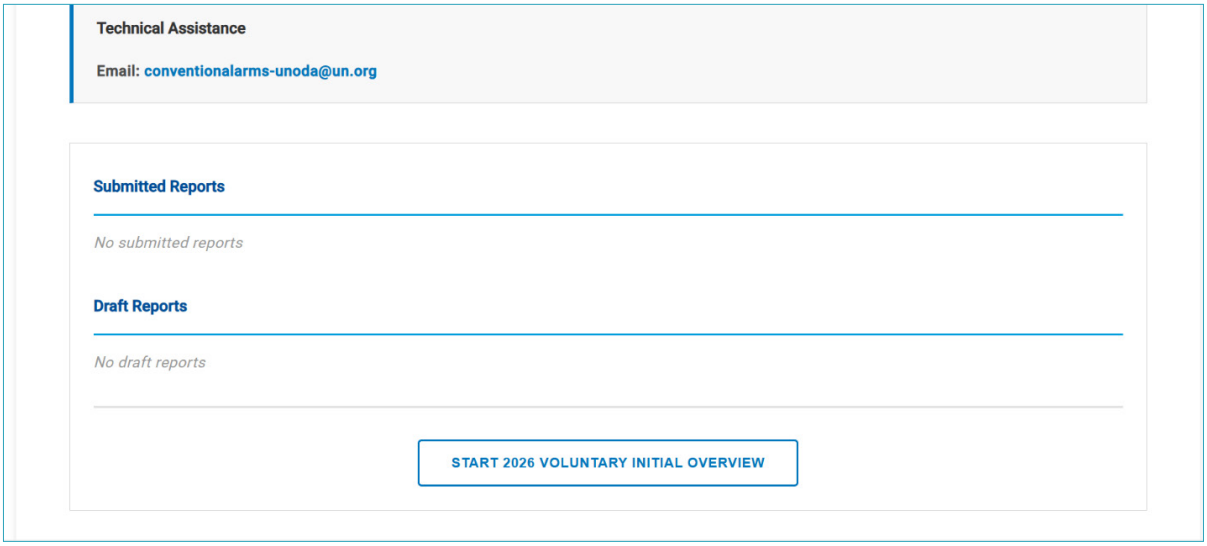
Step 1: Log into the online portal

Using the username and password assigned to the national point of contact, the user accesses the secure online reporting portal. Should the national authorities need support in receiving or updating credentials, please email: conventionalarms-unoda@un.org. See screenshot below.

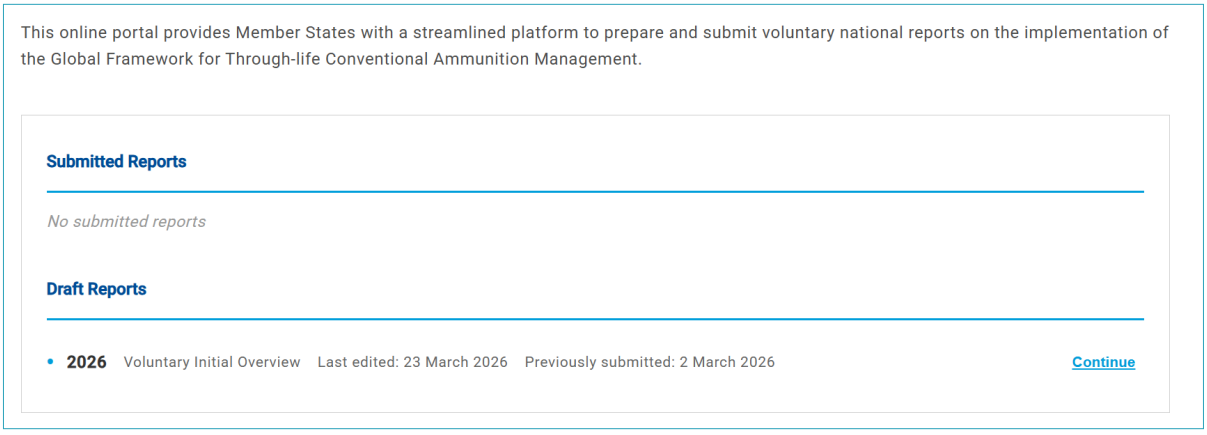


Step 2: Navigating the home menu

The user will then navigate the home menu. If it is the first time logging into the online reporting portal for 2026, the portal will offer the option to "Start 2026 initial overview" in the blue button at the centre. This button will open the working version of the voluntary reporting template. See screenshot below.



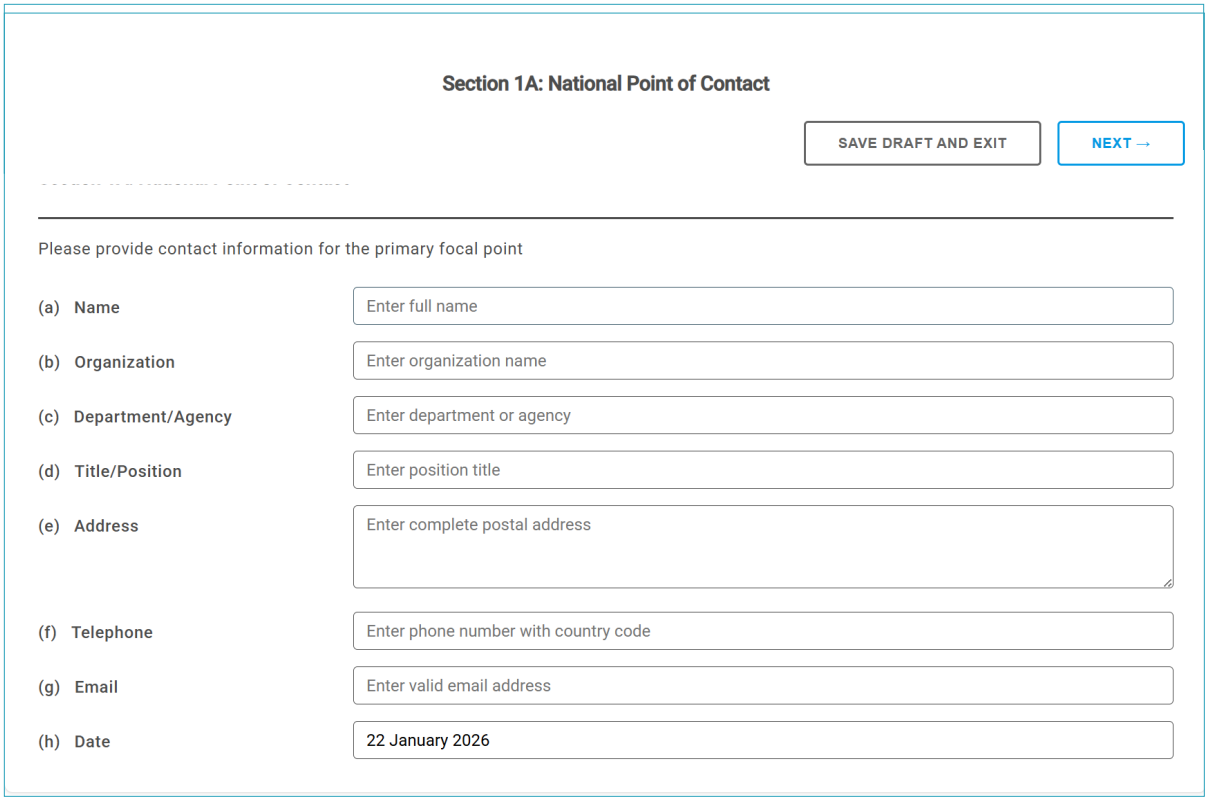
Once a user starts working on a report, the home menu will present both "Draft Reports" and "Submitted Reports". If continuing with a draft report, the user will simply click the "Continue" button at the bottom right of the screen. See screenshot below.



Step 3: Providing information on the national point of contact (Subsection 1A)

The online reporting platform will request the details of the national point of contact designated for voluntary information-sharing related to the implementation of the Global

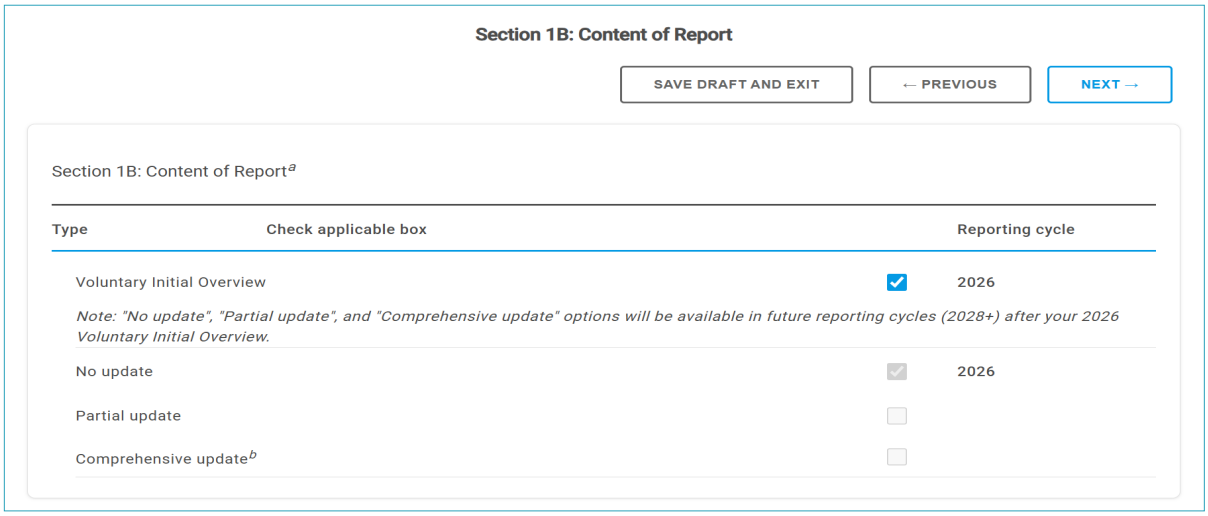
Framework.[15] Member States must maintain up-to-date contact information to ensure that the designated point of contact can be reached by UNODA for United Nations Secretariat-related communications. After entering the institutional information for the national point of contact, users should select "Next" at the top-right corner. See screenshot below.



Step 4: Indicating the "Content of Report" (Subsection 1B)

The user will select the applicable box on "Content of the Report". For the initial overviews, select **the box for "Voluntary Initial overview" and "2026" under the "Reporting cycle" column**. Once the appropriate reporting cycle is selected, users can press "Next" at the top-right corner. See screenshot below. Please note that national reports will include the actual submission date (not the day the draft was opened), even if the report corresponds to a reporting cycle that has passed.

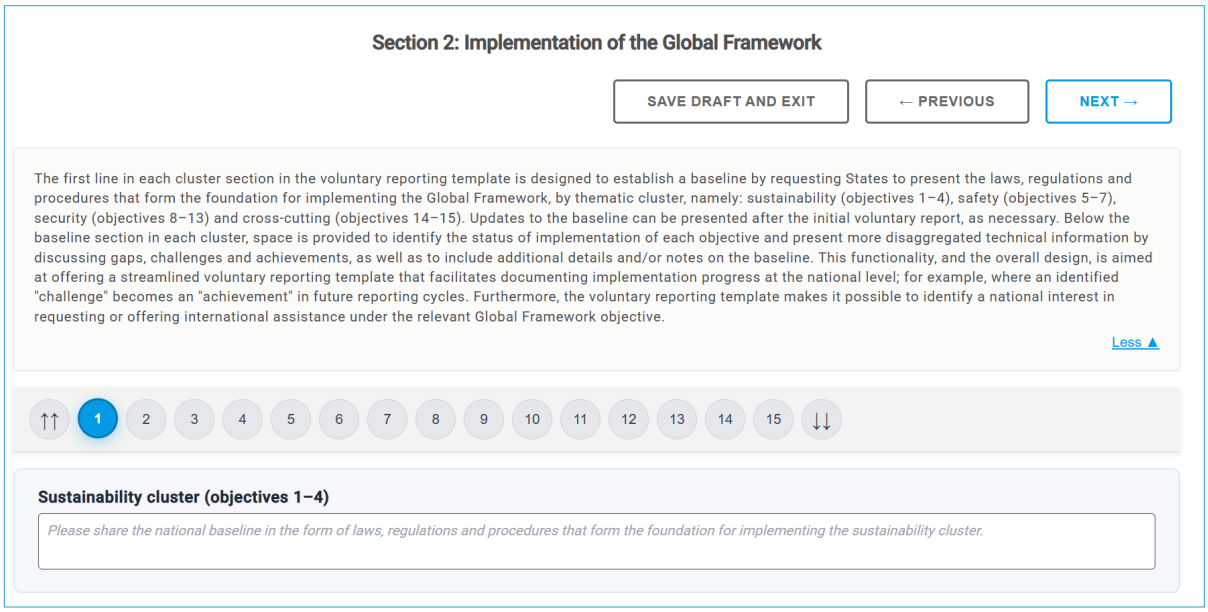
[15] See A/78/111, sect. IV, para. 18.

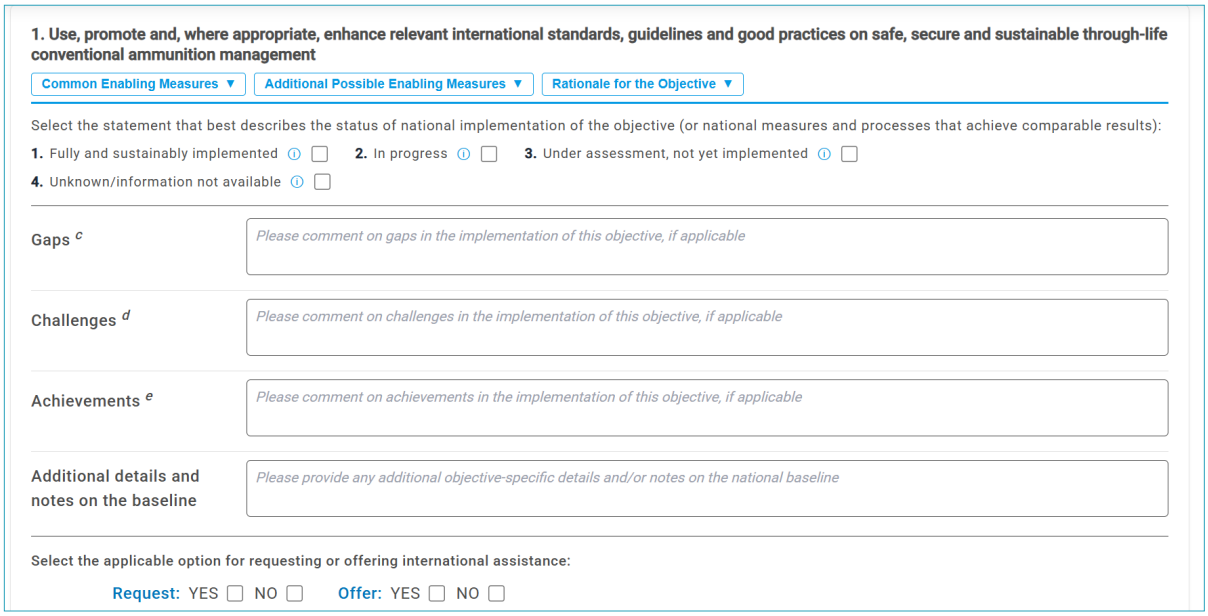


Step 5: Providing information on the implementation of the Global Framework (Section 2)

The online reporting platform is structured following the working version of the voluntary reporting template. As such, users will first provide baseline information for each thematic cluster in narrative form. They will then indicate the status of national implementation for each objective by selecting the most appropriate option from a set of multiple-choice checkboxes. This section continues with space to discuss gaps, challenges and achievements, as well as additional details and notes on the baseline, per objective, in narrative form. Afterwards, the template provides the option to request or offer international assistance per objective. This last field contains a checkbox, and if "Yes" is selected, then the portal opens a text box to provide more details in narrative form on either the request or the offer for assistance.

Please note that Section 2 on the online reporting portal has its own navigation bar at the top of the screen for the user to go through the 15 Global Framework objectives. Once all the applicable information for the 15 objectives is completed, the user can select "Next" at the top-right corner. See screenshot below.

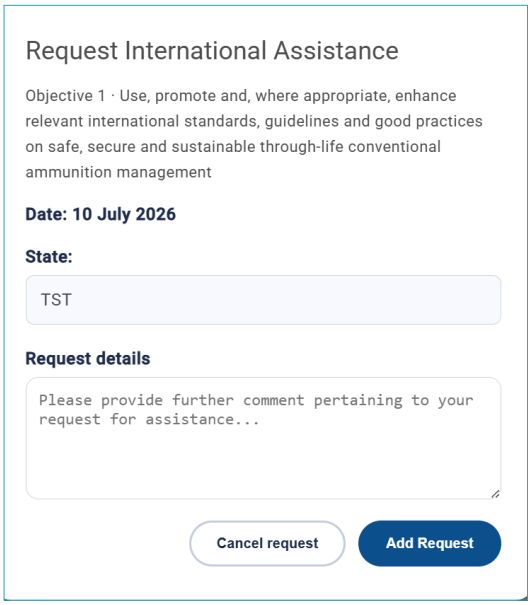




Step 5.1: Requesting or offering international assistance

If users select "Yes" in the checkbox to either request or offer international assistance, the portal opens a narrative text box to provide more details on either the request or the offer. The online portal opens the narrative text box automatically. Once the details of the request or offer are added, the user can select "Add request" (or "Add offer") in the blue button to include this information as part of the report.[16] See screenshot below.

[16] For those that select "Yes" to either request or offer assistance, the field with details will be required.



Step 6: Completing the questionnaire (Section 3)

In step 6, the user will be prompted to complete the questionnaire with a combination of multiple-choice selection and narrative text. The multiple-choice selection is done per objective, and the selection is done by clicking on the appropriate checkbox under the "priority" column (i.e., national, subregional and regional, and/or global). Please note the selection is non-exclusive, so users can select all three levels per relevant objective. Users are encouraged to expand on the selections made using narrative text at the bottom of the questionnaire. Once the relevant levels for the corresponding objectives have been marked, users can select "Next" at the top-right corner. See screenshot below.

Section 3: Questionnaire on Priorities

SAVE DRAFT AND EXIT | ← PREVIOUS | NEXT →

Please indicate in the "Priority" column (with an "X") which objectives require further support or consideration for implementation at the national level, as well as focused engagement at the subregional and regional levels and at forthcoming meetings at the global level, as relevant and appropriate.

Global Framework objectives	*Priority*		
	National	Subregional and regional	Global
1. Use, promote and, where appropriate, enhance relevant international standards, guidelines and good practices on safe, secure and sustainable through-life conventional ammunition management	☐	☐	☐
2. Adopt specific needs-driven and sustainable approaches to international cooperation and assistance, tailored to national, subregional or regional contexts, and prioritizing full recipient participation and ownership	☐	☐	☐
3. Support, where appropriate, regional and subregional mechanisms that address through-life conventional ammunition management	☐	☐	☐
4. Prioritize the sustainability of relevant national authorities' capabilities in through-life conventional ammunition management	☐	☐	☐
5. Strive for the adequate systematic and sustainable surveillance of conventional ammunition in national stockpiles	☐	☐	☐
6. Employ adequate risk reduction processes for the management of national conventional ammunition stockpiles	☐	☐	☐
7. Establish adequate through-life systems for inventory management and record-keeping of conventional ammunition under national ownership and control	☐	☐	☐
8. Promote supply chain transparency to comprehensively minimize and mitigate the risks of diversion when authorizing conventional ammunition transfers	☐	☐	☐
9. Mitigate the risk of post-transfer conventional ammunition diversion, including through end-user certificates and functionally equivalent documents in accordance with bilaterally determined clauses	☐	☐	☐
10. Deny unauthorized recipients, including criminals, organized criminal groups and terrorists, access to usable cached, abandoned and uncleared conventional ammunition and its energetic material	☐	☐	☐
11. Enhance the marking and tracing of conventional ammunition under national ownership and control	☐	☐	☐
12. Foster voluntary information-sharing on subregional, regional and international conventional ammunition diversion and illicit trafficking	☐	☐	☐
13. Enhance, where consistent with national laws, data collection and analysis by competent national authorities on diverted conventional ammunition	☐	☐	☐
14. Strengthen gender mainstreaming and the full, equal, meaningful and effective participation of women in through-life conventional ammunition management	☐	☐	☐
15. Encourage cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including non-governmental organizations and civil society, academia, research institutions and industry, to enhance through-life conventional ammunition management	☐	☐	☐

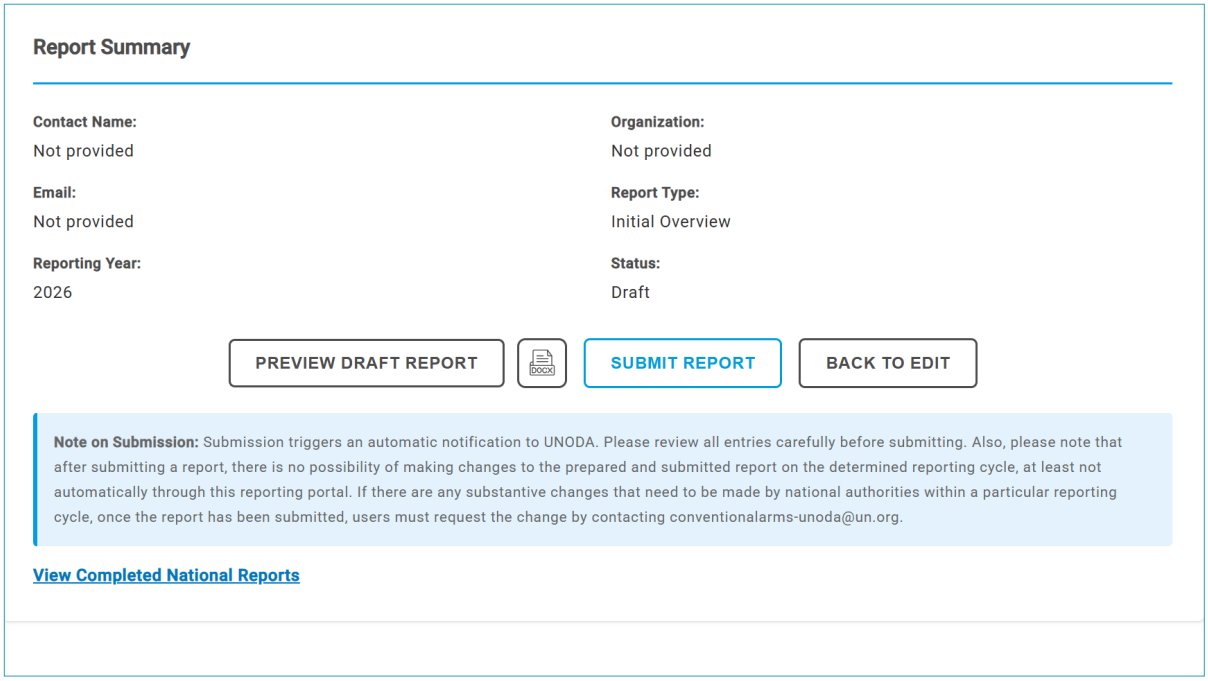
Provide additional information below, as needed, indicating the Objective(s) being referenced.**

- **National**
- **Subregional and regional**
- **Global**

Step 7: Reviewing and submitting the national report

In this final step, users will be able to review their draft report in a downloadable format before submission. If any revisions are needed, they may select "Back to Edit" to return to the report and make the necessary changes. Once satisfied with the report, users may select the blue "Submit Report" button to transmit the report securely to the UNODA Conventional Arms Branch through the reporting portal.

Please note: After a report has been submitted, it can no longer be modified by the user within the portal for that reporting cycle. Users are therefore strongly encouraged to carefully review the report before submission. If substantive changes are required after submission, the user should contact the Conventional Arms Branch at conventionalarms-unoda@un.org. Any post-submission amendments will be handled directly by UNODA and are not available through the portal's automated functions.



Additional resources to support voluntary national reporting

- Guidance materials are available under "Additional Resources and Supporting Materials", including this reporting guide and an instructional video accessible from the home page to assist users in preparing and submitting voluntary national reports.
- The online portal has a navigation bar at the top of the entire portal. This allows users to move back and forth between the different sections of the working version of the voluntary reporting template and different areas within the online portal.
- If reporting on paper, then users are encouraged to permit UNODA to upload the reported information to the online reporting portal for consistency in data accounting.
- For technical assistance or questions regarding the use of the online reporting portal, please email: conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.

2.3 Procedural and substantive considerations for reporting

To support Member States in preparing their initial overview in 2026 and subsequent voluntary national reports, this section outlines key procedural and substantive considerations.

Procedural considerations

In light of the reporting timeline envisaged under the Global Framework, with voluntary initial overviews in 2026 to inform discussions at the Meeting of States in 2027[17] and the first voluntary reports anticipated in 2028,[18] States may wish to consider the following procedural steps in preparing for voluntary national reporting:

- Member States to designate national points of contact via note verbale to UNODA
- National points of contact to receive credentials to access the online reporting portal
- National points of contact to maintain updated contact information for United Nations Secretariat purposes and information-sharing
- National points of contact to consult relevant national authorities to gather substantive input to prepare national reports, namely:
    - Provide information on their national baseline, including relevant laws, regulations and procedures at the thematic cluster level
    - Select the status of implementation of each Global Framework objective and describe any gaps, challenges and achievements
    - Provide any additional objective-specific information, including notes to the baseline;
    - Indicate any interest in requesting or offering international assistance under each objective
    - Complete the questionnaire on priorities
- National points of contact to review draft and, if appropriate, share draft with all national authorities to gather final inputs and/or edits
- National points of contact to submit national reports to UNODA

[17] Para. 10 of the report of the Preparatory Meeting of States (A/AC.299/2025/PM/1) notes, "The Preparatory Meeting recalls that States are encouraged to provide a voluntary initial overview in 2026, which includes steps taken to implement this Global Framework, with the aim of informing the discussions of the 2027 Meeting of States. States are encouraged to use the annexed template for their voluntary initial overview. This can support the review and further refinement of the template ahead of its adoption by the Meeting of States."

[18] This timeline envisions the biennial reporting cycle recommended by the Preparatory Meeting to be adopted at the 2027 Meeting of States.

Substantive points

- Bear in mind, when collecting and preparing national inputs, the primary purpose of voluntary national reporting: **to reflect progress in Global Framework implementation at the national level and observe its cumulative impact.**
- Consider the structure of the working version of the voluntary reporting template:
  - Section 1: information on the national point of contact and content of the report
  - Section 2 (core of the reporting effort):
    - National baseline (legal framework) per thematic cluster
    - Status of national implementation (multiple-choice selection) and description of related gaps, challenges, and achievements, as well as additional details and notes to the baseline
    - Indication of interest in international assistance per objective
  - Section 3: multiple-choice questionnaire to indicate which objectives require further support or consideration for implementation and at which level.
- Note the importance of complementary forms of data when completing the different parts of the working version of the voluntary reporting template (i.e., combining multiple-choice selections with more detailed and contextual free-form narrative text input)
- Focus national inputs on through-life conventional ammunition management and the Global Framework objectives, as opposed to broader conventional arms control matters
  - Note the importance of the common enabling measures and additional possible enabling measures, as well as the objectives' rationales, when preparing inputs
  - Consider the value of voluntary information-sharing and exchange[19] to make the reporting process a constructive exercise.

[19] See, for example, A/78/111, sect. IV, para 18. Also, please note Objective 12 of the Global Framework: Foster voluntary information-sharing on subregional, regional and international conventional ammunition diversion and illicit trafficking.

Guiding principle

In conclusion, this reporting guide is intended to support States in their voluntary reporting efforts on the implementation of the Global Framework for Through-life Conventional Ammunition Management. Beyond fulfilling a reporting task, the voluntary reporting process should be viewed as a practical tool for national reflection, assessment and engagement. **The guiding principle for reporting is to focus on the report's utility. In preparing national reports, States are encouraged to use the process as an opportunity to assess the national state of implementation, reflect on measures taken, identify and share achievements and good practices, recognize gaps and challenges and determine areas that may require additional attention, improvement or prioritization. Reporting can also help identify opportunities for follow-up actions, including international cooperation and assistance.**

The Global Framework highlights the concept of gaps, challenges and achievements, and the working version of the voluntary reporting template maintains them as the underpinning structure for States to consider when reporting on observations during the implementation of each objective.

Recognizing that States possess varying levels of capacity and experience in reporting to international instruments, the UNODA Conventional Arms Branch and Regional Centres can leverage specialized institutional, regional and thematic knowledge to support interested Member States. States are encouraged to engage with UNODA and make the best use of available resources to address their reporting needs.