

Civil Society Engagement of Firearm Controls and the Central Firearms Registry (CFR)

17 October 2023

On 13 October 2023, the South Africa Observatory (SA-Obs) of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime (GI-TOC) hosted a civil society engagement on firearm controls and the functioning of the Central Firearm Registry (CFR). The engagement brought together several firearm owner associations as well as representatives of Gun Free South Africa and the African Police Civilian Oversight Forum.

The purpose of the meeting was to find common areas of engagement regarding the functioning of the CFR and firearm management.

The participants recognised that, while the various civil society groups present had very different long-term objectives around firearms controls, there are pressing concerns that require a unified response

The following was agreed:

- 1) The Firearms Control Act is a vital piece of legislation which is not being effectively administered and implemented.
- 2) The Central Firearms Registry is currently dysfunctional.
- 3) Corruption is endemic in South Africa and the firearm management regime is fertile ground for this.
- 4) The above-mentioned factors are actively exploited and nurtured by organised crime syndicates.

The participants agreed to work together in a concerted manner in order to take these concerns forward and ensure they are addressed by the appropriate authorities.

List of Participants

GI-TOC

South African Arms and Ammunition Dealers' Association (SAAADA)

Confederation of Hunting Associations of South Africa (CHASA)

National Arms and Ammunition Collectors Confederation of South Africa (NAACCSA)

Professional Firearms Trainers Council (PFTC)

South African Hunters and Game Conservation Association (SAHGCA)
South African Gunowners Association (SAGA)
Gun Free South Africa (GFSA)
African Policing Civilian Oversight Forum (APCOF)
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