

UN Mission in Colombia

Terms of Reference – Expert on destruction of Explosives

Consultant

Background

The UN Mission in Colombia was established through Security Council resolution 2261 (2016) on 25 January 2016, as a special political mission integrated by unarmed international observers to monitor and verify the laying down of arms, and be part of the tripartite mechanism that will monitor and verify the definitive bilateral ceasefire and cessation of hostilities between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP. The resolution followed a request from both parties through a Joint Communiqué issued by the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP on 19 January 2016, transmitted through a letter from the President of Colombia to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53). Elements of the Mission's size, operations and mandate were further defined through Security Council resolution 2307 (2016) on 13 September 2016, following a series of recommendations in a report from the Secretary-General dated 18 August 2016 (S/2016/729).

Tasks

The Expert on Destruction of Explosives will report to the Senior Programme Management Officer within delegated authority from the Chief of Staff. He/she will support the Mission in the monitoring and verification of the laydown of weapons by providing technical assistance in the registration, identification and final disposal of weapons, ammunitions, grenades and explosives in compliance with IATG and ISACS international standards.

In line with the mandates of the Mission mandate, the Expert on Destruction of Explosives will be responsible for the following duties:

- Assist to the UNMC observers in the verification of the destruction of explosives and unstable material at locations identified by the FARC-EP or the ZVTN in compliance with the IATG and ISACS international standards.
- Assist to the UNMC observers in following up the laydown of weapons process and verify compliance with the IATG, ISACS and what was agreed in the Final Agreement and its respective protocols.
- Provide technical assistance and support for the storage of weapons in the ZVTN at different stages of the process of laydown of weapons. Analyse the procedures and produce recommendations for their effective implementation and improvement. Produce reports for different users of information.

- Collect relevant information about the laydown of weapons and monitor its compliance with IATG and ISACS international standards.
 - Advise to the UNMC observers on the planning of the operations and produce recommendations for the UNMC Mission for the laydown of weapons. Produce reports for users of information. Gather and analyse information relevant to the Mission. Facilitate the dissemination of information.
 - Analyse infractions; identify trends and risks that may compromise laydown of weapons. Produce risk reports and early warnings for consideration of the SRSG.
 - Performs other related duties as required by the supervisor.
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Education y work experience

University degree. Technical specialists with weapons knowledge with international standards (minimum level: EOD2 / EOD 3), with extensive experience in the field (preferably in the region), good working relations with armed groups involved in a peace process, military forces, national authorities, communities and capacity of adaptation to work with new coordination mechanisms.

Languages

Spanish and English are the working languages of the United Nations Secretariat. For this position, fluency in Spanish is required.

Duration of Contract

The assignment is for three months, starting as soon as possible.

Duty Station

The consultant will be based in Bogotá and is expected to travel frequently to Mission field offices around Colombia.