How Small Arms Production, Trade and Use Affects Health and Development

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Major sources of small arms are........

- Authorized Paramilitary Groups and Private Owners.
- Unauthorized Paramilitary Groups, OPC, Bakassi, Egbesu e.t.c
- Criminal Elements.
- Unauthorized Private Owners.
Personal Reflections on Nigeria

- Boko Haram
- Niger Delta
- Ethno-religious armed violence
- Diversion of weapons from the Armed Forces
Ground Realities

• Guns are Deadly

• Guns are Costly

• Guns are Violence Multipliers
In Ecuador

- Estimated cost for a patient’s bed per day is $1000.

- Per capital health care spending is $50 per person

- From above, estimated cost of the victim for 10 days equals the share of 200 Ecuadorians.
It is impossible to achieve development without health as it is impossible to maintain and promote health in the midst of armed violence.
Ground Realities

• Costly Treatment of Armed Violence Survivors

• Retards Development Including Health

• Arms – Injuries and Death

• Diverts Resources from Health
Ground Realities

Small Arms Violence directly or indirectly lead to diversion of resources from vital social services such as public health and social development that currently flows to arms management, security, defense and fighting criminality.
Role of Physicians

• “Eyewitnesses”
  ▫ Research/Document on types, patterns, outcomes

• Work among IDPs and Refugees escaping armed violence

• Use public health tools to monitor and evaluate policies

• Alert policymakers to policy transgressions
Thank you FOR LISTENING!