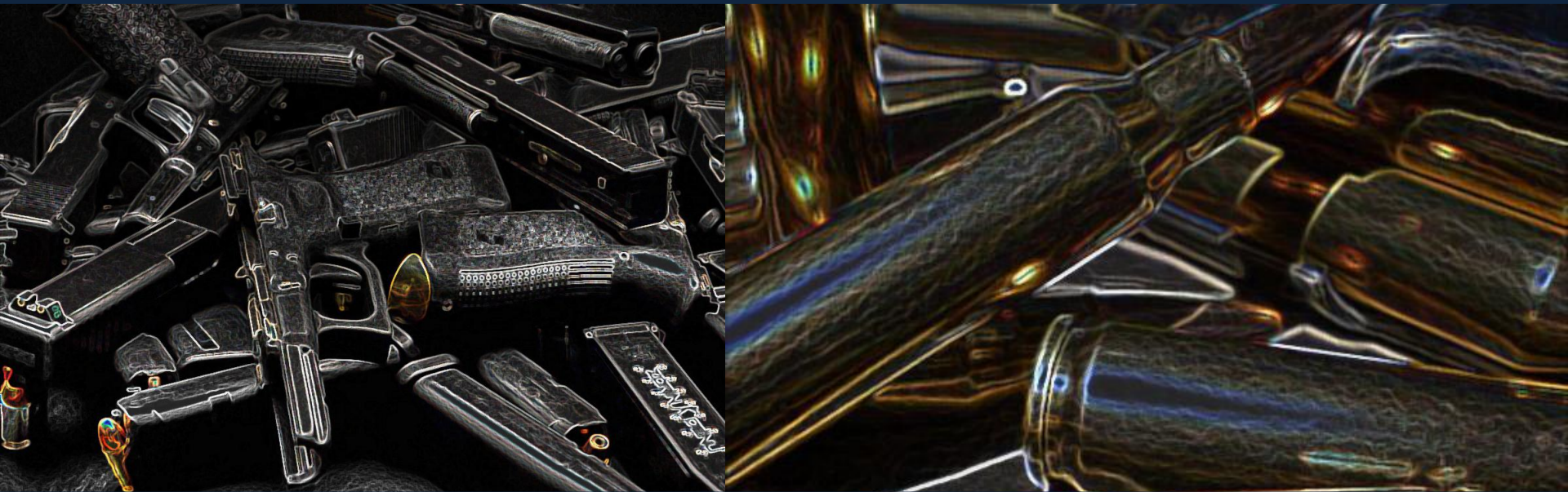


# BACK TO BASICS

TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW



**Select Committee on Security and Justice**  
**Firearm Amnesty 2017**  
**21 June 2017**

**#CrimeMustFall**

# CONTENTS

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW



- 1. Background.**
- 2. 2017 Firearm Amnesty Objectives.**
- 3. Phased Approach Firearms Amnesty 2017.**
- 4. Monitoring/Auditing Mechanisms.**
- 5. Communication/Community Awareness.**
- 6. Conclusion.**

# 1. Background

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





# Introduction (1)

- The Minister of Police may by notice in the Gazette declare an amnesty if the amnesty may result in the reduction of the number of illegally possessed firearms in South Africa and it is in the public interest to do so.
- Section 139(2) of Firearms Control Act, 60 of 2000, also provides that such amnesty will only be valid if it is approved by Parliament; the amnesty must specify the period during which persons may apply for amnesty and must specify the conditions under which amnesty may be granted.



## Introduction (2)

5

### → **Current Situation:**

- High number of illegally possessed firearms in circulation in South Africa; and
- Firearms is a major contributor to crime in South Africa.

### → **Purpose of Firearms Control Act, 60 of 2000: Remove Illegally Possessed Firearms from Society [Section 2]:**

- Proviso of amnesty as per Section 139: Declaration of an amnesty may result in the reduction of the number of illegally possessed firearms in South Africa and if it is in the interest of the public;
- Indemnification: A person who surrenders a firearm or ammunition in compliance with the notice is indemnified against prosecution; and
- **Previous Amnesties yielded significant success in South Africa.**



# Draft Amnesty Notice

- The Minister has submitted the draft Notice to both the Speaker of Parliament and the Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces for consideration, as required by the Act;
- A written application for amnesty by an applicant must be handed in at a police station and the application must state the full names, identity number and residential address of the applicant, as well as identifying the firearm and ammunition;
- The firearm must be surrendered to a member of the police on duty at a police station who must issue a receipt for the firearm and ammunition;
- Should the applicant for amnesty wish to apply for a licence for the firearm or ammunition, such an application must be lodged within 14 days from the date of surrendering the firearm; and
- Firearms will be ballistically tested.



# Firearm Amnesty 2005 & 2010



## → **Amnesty 2005:**

- Initial Amnesty Period: 1 January to 31 March 2005; and
- Extended to 30 June 2005.

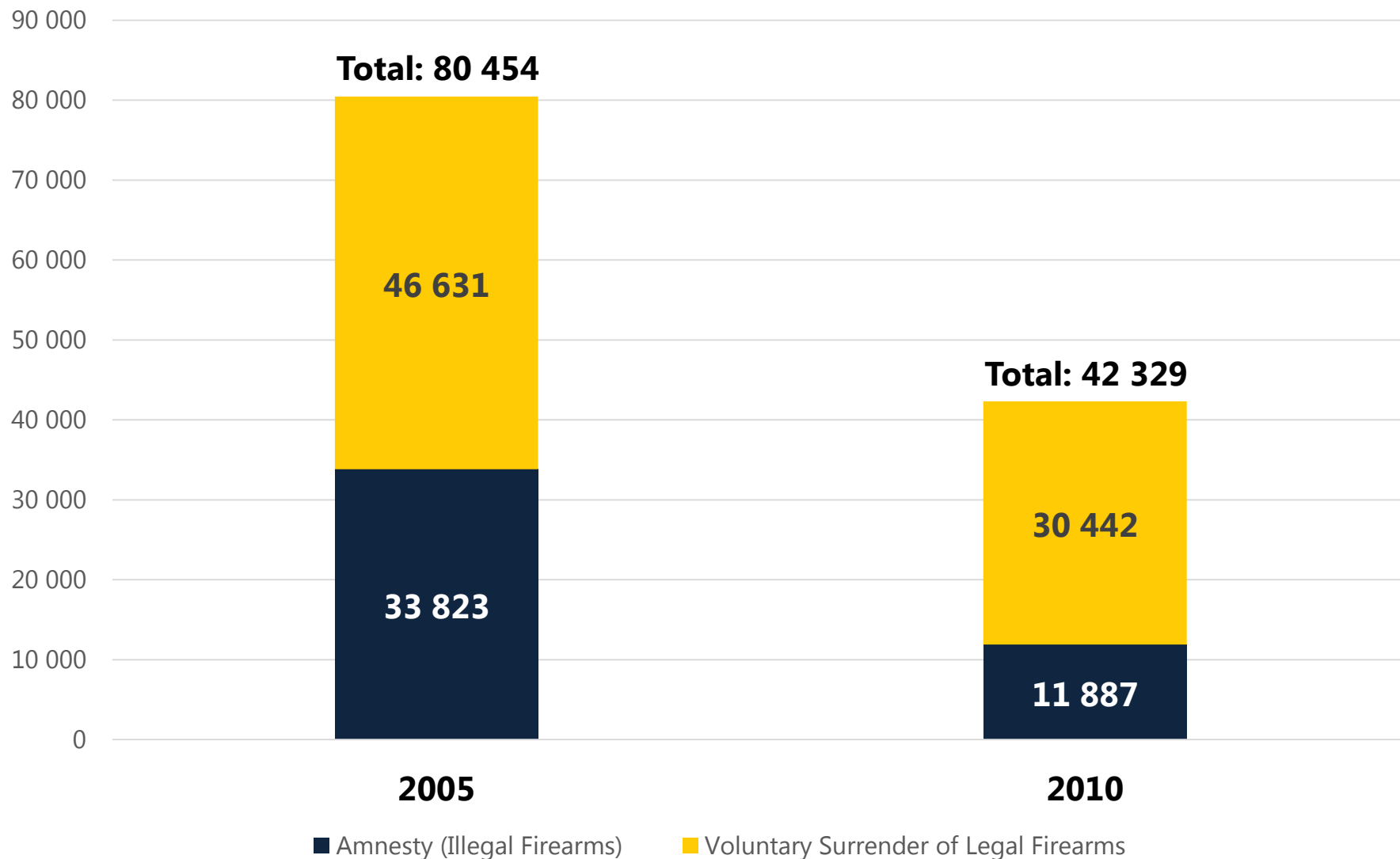
## → **Amnesty 2010:**

- 1 January to 31 March 2010.

## → **Overview:**

- Focused operations during Amnesty periods resulted in increased number of firearms surrendered;
- Firearms could be surrendered at any police station in South Africa;
- Police officials were briefed on conditions of Amnesty;
- Various communication and public awareness campaigns were conducted; and
- Duration of Amnesty period: 6 months yield better results.

## Amnesty 2005 & 2010







- Value chain: Record keeping of surrendered firearms, including:
  - System Enhancement & Administrative Processes.
- Comprehensive briefing of Designated Amnesty Officials/SAPS  
13 Officials on relevant processes and procedures.
- Clearly stipulated time-frames for the transfer of firearms from  
police stations to point of destruction.
- Centralised destruction of firearms preferable to minimise risks.

## **2. 2017 Firearms Amnesty Objectives**

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





# 2017 Firearms Amnesty Objectives

11

**1**

To reduce the number of illegally possessed firearms in circulation in South Africa

**2**

To provide firearm owners with the opportunity to hand in unwanted firearms

**3**

To prevent crime and violence and to promote safety

**4**

To address the fundamental causes of crime in order to effectively protect our communities

**5**

To ensure people living in South Africa feel safe and have no fear of crime



# Affected Entities / Focus Groups

12

## → **Persons who:**

- Possess stolen firearms or are aware of stolen firearms;
- Possess illegal firearms which were unlawfully imported (trafficking/smuggling) into the country;
- Possess firearms which they inherited or which belong to a deceased (estate firearms);
- Failed to renew their firearm licences or permits;
- Persons declared unfit to possess a firearm but failed to surrender such;
- Posses firearms where import/export permit/temporary authorisation lapsed; and
- Wish to voluntary surrender their firearms in the spirit of Amnesty 2017.

## → **Businesses which ceased to carry on business.**

## → **Official & non-official institutions wishing to surrender obsolete, redundant or discarded firearms.**

## → **Green licences, or any other authority issued in terms of previous firearm legislation:**

- Opportunity to apply afresh for a firearm licence in terms of Firearms Control Act.

### **3. Phased Implementation of Amnesty 2017**

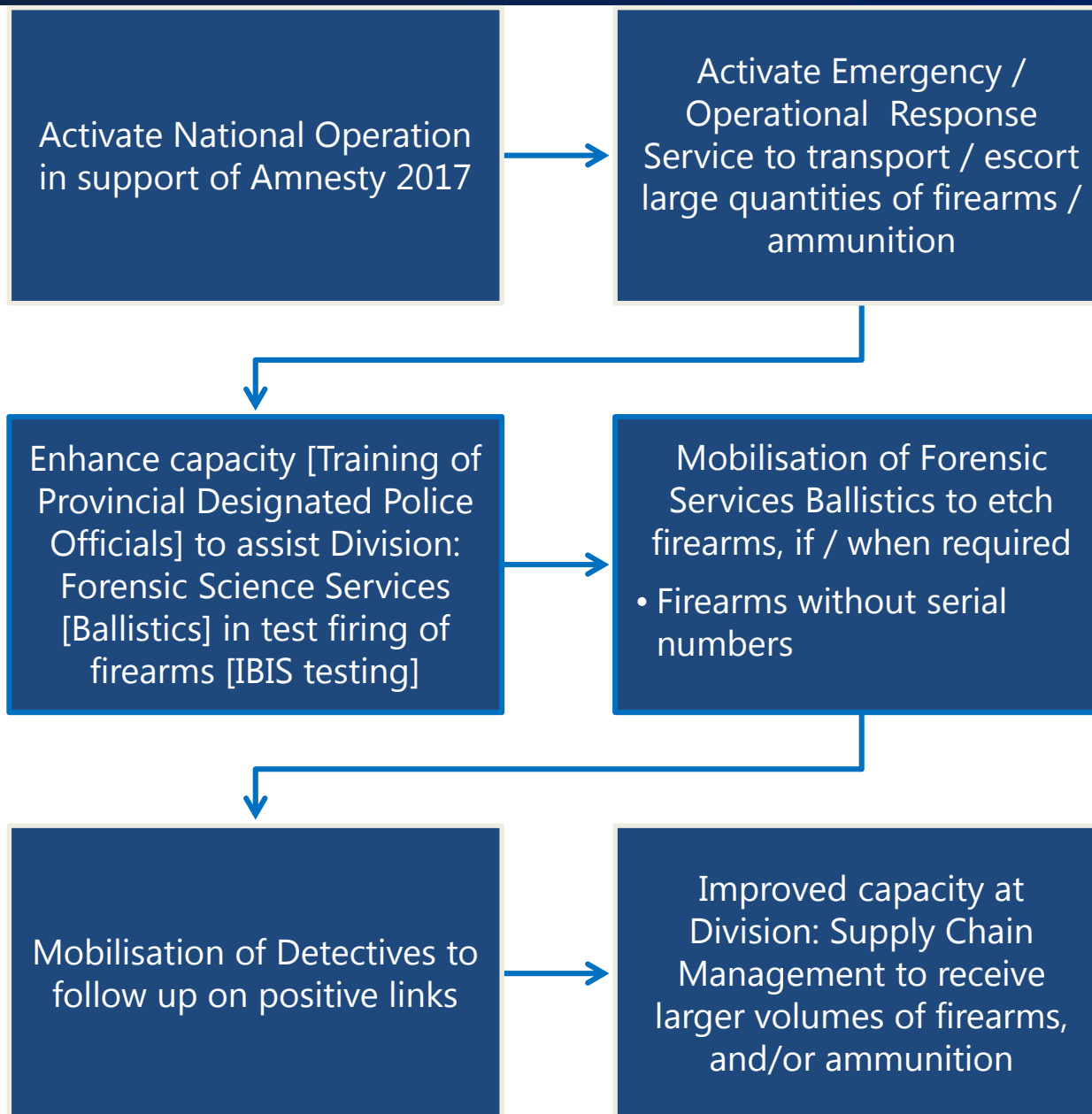
**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





# Pre-Amnesty Phase [Upon Announcement of Amnesty 2017] (1)

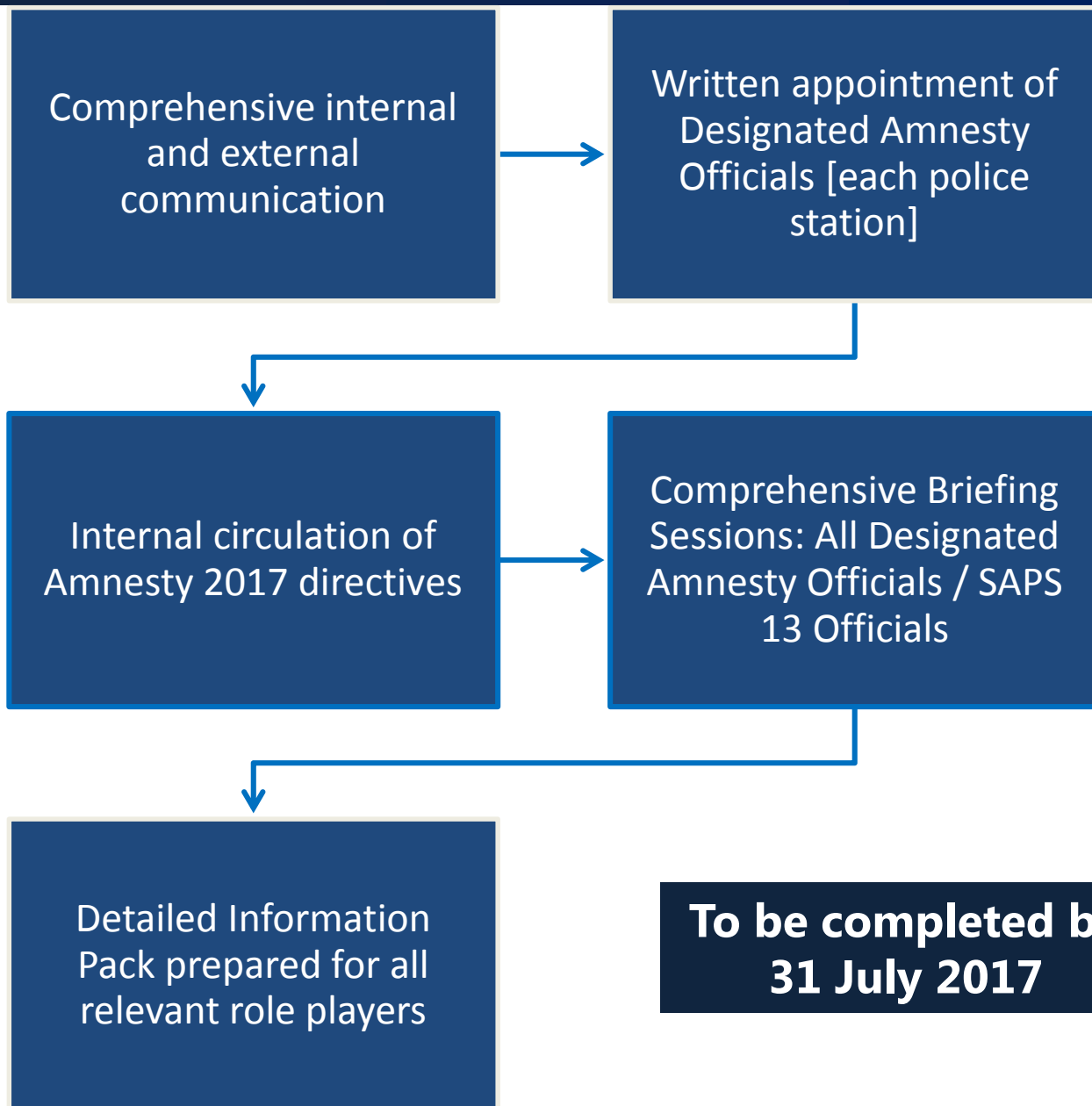
14





# Pre-Amnesty Phase [Upon Announcement of Amnesty 2017] (2)

15



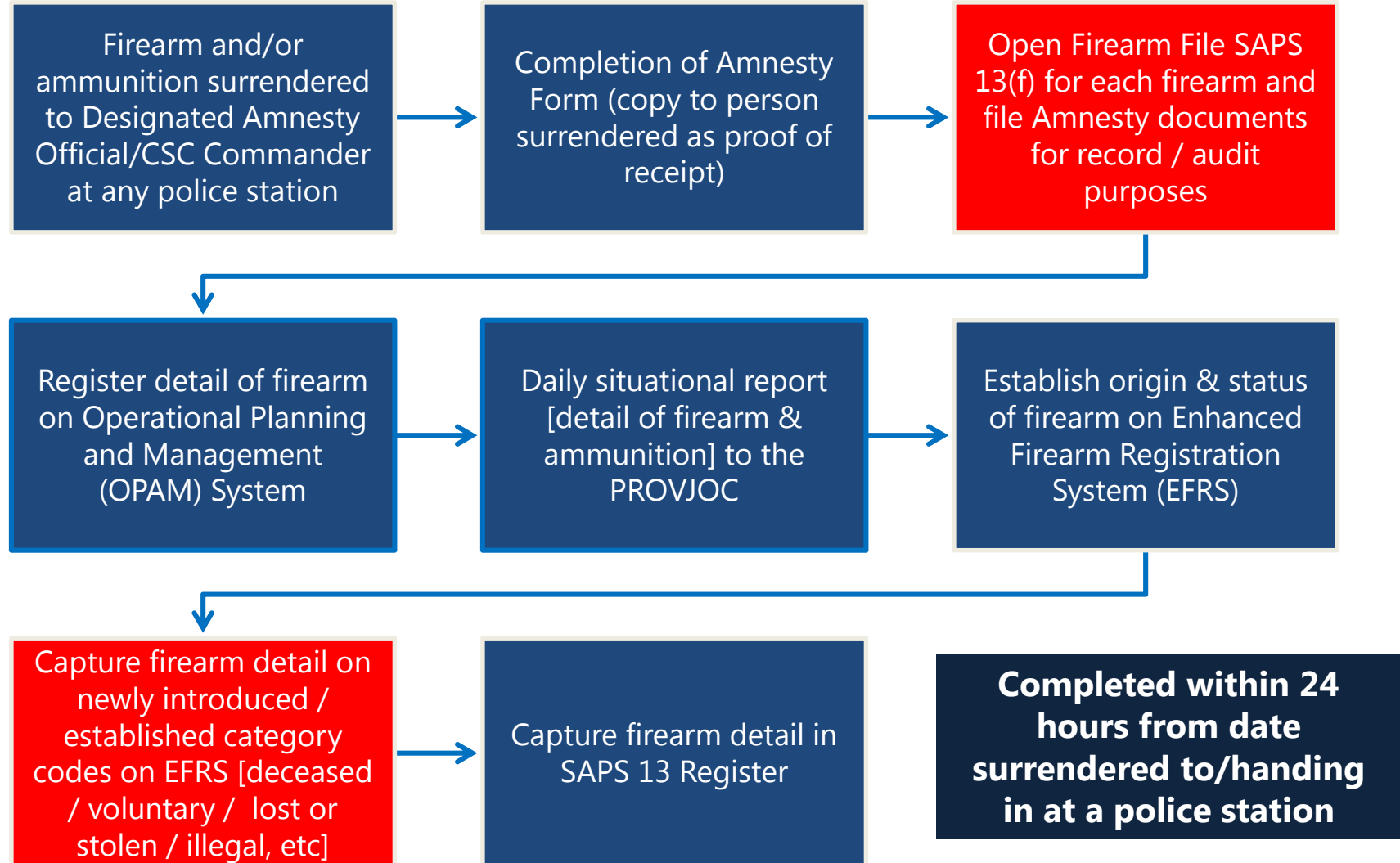
**To be completed by  
31 July 2017**



# Amnesty Phase: Process Timelines for the Safe & Secure Storage of Firearms / Ammunition (1)

16

**Date of initiation of Amnesty Phase, 1 August 2017, as approved by Parliament**

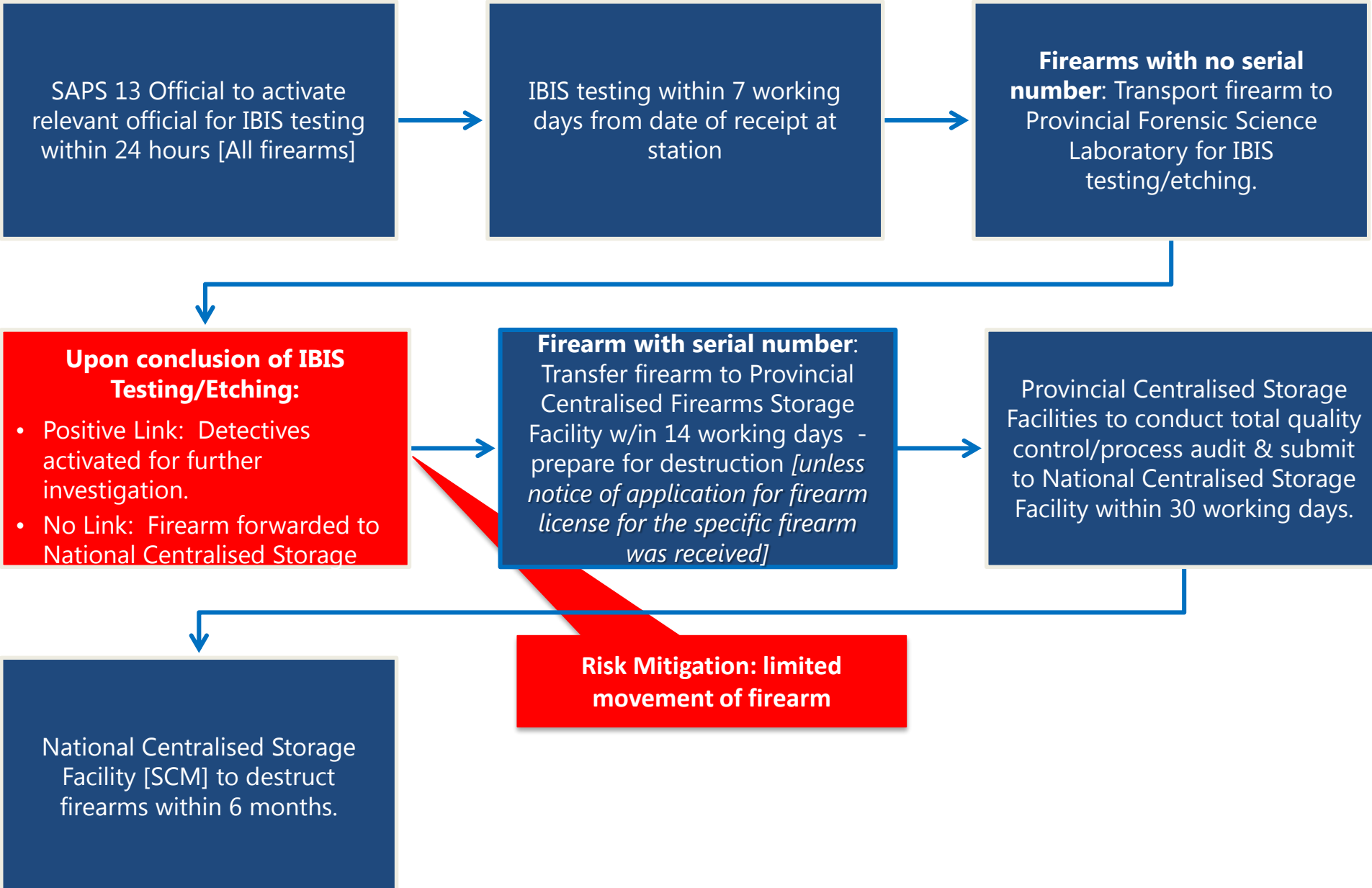






# Amnesty Phase: Process Timelines for the Safe & Secure Storage of Firearms / Ammunition (2)

17



## 4. Monitoring & Auditing Mechanisms

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





# Monitoring Mechanisms

19



**To ensure effective  
administration, record-  
keeping & processing at all  
departmental levels:**

- Station Commander: submit daily situational report to Cluster Commander to validate information against OPAM.
- Station Commander: submit daily situational report to PROVJOC to verify information with OPAM – 08:00.
- Station Commanders to conduct weekly inspections on Firearm Files (SAPS13(f)) and SAPS 13 Stores, until the date the disposal order for the firearm was issued.
- PROVJOC: submit daily consolidated provincial situational report to Provincial Commissioner/NATJOC – verify information with OPAM – 10:00.
- NATJOC: submit daily national consolidated report to National Commissioner/identified role players – 14:00.



**To ensure effective  
administration, record-  
keeping & processing at all  
departmental levels:**

- National Audit Teams: consisting of Management Intervention, Division: Visible Policing and identified role players.
- Ad hoc audits at different levels throughout the country – duration of the amnesty.
- Provincial audit teams: consisting of Provincial: Visible Policing and identified role players:
  - Ad hoc audits at identified police stations throughout respective provinces.
- Cluster Audit Teams: Visible Policing [at Cluster level] together with identified role players:
  - Monthly audit of all police stations within cluster.

# 5. Communication & Community Awareness

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





# 2017 Firearms Amnesty Communication Objectives



**1**

Internal and external focused communication

**2**

Prior to Amnesty 2017 – education / empowerment / awareness / announcement / lobby community support / interest groups

**3**

During Amnesty 2017 – process communication / updates / evidence based communication – e.g. completing the required form, etc.

**4**

Post Amnesty 2017 – thank you message / communication of successes / lessons learnt

## → Main Communication Message:

- *“Surrender illegal firearms/ammunition at your local police station from 1 August 2017 to 31 January 2018”.*

## → Slogan:

- Firearm Amnesty 2017, an opportunity not to be missed.

## → Target audience:

- Members of the SAPS as ambassadors of the campaign; and
- Designated amnesty officers.

## → Key stakeholders:

- The general public.



## → Key Communication Messengers:

- Minister of Police;
- Deputy Minister of Police;
- SAPS Leadership – Acting National Commissioner, Deputy National Commissioner: Policing and Provincial Commissioners;
- Spokesperson, Ministry of Police; and
- SAPS Spokespersons.





## → Communication Phases:

- Prior to Amnesty 2017, during Amnesty 2017 and post Amnesty 2017.

## – Communication Approach:

- Internal communication: main message: *“Spread the message wherever you are, utilising available platforms”*;
- Media communication: media briefing, external awareness through print and electronic media, media updates, media tours; and
- Social media platforms.



### → Communication Approach (cont.):

- Unmediated forms of communication, e.g. community launch, scheduled crime awareness campaigns;
- Explore partnerships of significance e.g. Media Houses; JCPS Cluster communication and other government departments through the GCIS, DIRCO, targeting the international community (embassies), Faith-Based bodies, shopping malls, Business Against Crime South Africa (BACSA), institutions of learning, commuter points, banking-sector through South African Banking Risk Information Centre (SABRIC), House of Traditional Leaders, Premier Soccer League, Vodacom.



**1 AUGUST – 31 JANUARY**

**AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS/ FIREARM PARTS AND/OR AMMUNITION**  
in terms of Section 139 of the Firearms Control Act, 2000  
**Act No. 60 of 2000**



**FIREARM AMNESTY 2017**  
An opportunity not to be missed

PLEASE SPREAD THE MESSAGE WHEREVER YOU ARE



# External & Internal Posters

28



## AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS/ FIREARM PARTS AND/OR AMMUNITION

Firearms Control Act, 2000  
Act No. 60 of 2000

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL POLICE STATION FOR MORE DETAILS



## AMNESTY FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS/ FIREARM PARTS AND/OR AMMUNITION

in terms of Section 139 of the Firearms Control Act, 2000  
Act No. 60 of 2000

PLEASE SPREAD THE MESSAGE WHEREVER YOU ARE

## 6. Conclusion

**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW





- **Ensure the SAPS's operational readiness at all levels.**
- **Address critical success factors:**
  - Timing of amnesty: illegal firearms in circulation/use of firearms in crimes;
  - Internal organisational planning/capacity: designated amnesty official;
  - Control mechanisms: dual approach: firearm files/systems; and
  - Monitoring/audit mechanisms: operational approach/auditing teams.



**BACK TO BASICS**  
TOWARDS A SAFER TOMORROW



**THANK YOU**

**#CrimeMustFall**