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20 April 2021

Excellency,

I have the pleasure of writing to you following a series of informal consultations on the agenda items for the Seventh Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (BMS7), to be convened from 26 to 30 July 2021 in New York.

Over the past weeks I have conducted informal consultations with interested delegations to resolve outstanding concerns over the agenda items of BMS7. This process is ongoing, and I hope to conclude those deliberations with the interested parties in the coming days, at which point I will share the revised agenda again with all delegations, placing it under silence procedure to ensure consensus among all Member States.

Without prejudice to the agreement on the exact formulation of the agenda items, I do wish to move forward with our substantive preparations for BMS7. Subsequently, I am pleased to invite you to our next virtual informal consultations in preparation of the BMS7 on **Thursday, 22 April 2021 at 3pm.**

The meeting will be conducted virtually via Microsoft Teams. A technical guide and a meeting invitation with the respective link have been distributed alongside this letter through the e-delegate portal. If delegations have any questions, please reach out directly to conventionalarms-unoda@un.org.



This week's consultations are intended to initiate the process by which Member States will provide proposals and inputs for a "zero draft" of the Outcome Document, which will be a very initial and informal paper, containing not much more than an indication of the topics which Member States wish to see reflected. I therefore encourage delegations to put forward concrete proposals on any of the provisional agenda items we have been discussing over the past months.

I intend to circulate a "zero draft" by the end of next week and hope to work with Member States in informal consultations over the coming weeks to enrich the document further. Delegations are encouraged to submit working papers to facilitate our deliberations.

I would also like to remind those Member States who have not yet submitted their national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action, to do so by the **extended deadline of 31st May 2021**.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.



Martin Kimani, PhD, EBS
Ambassador and Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Kenya to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives
and Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York

