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Permanent Mission Of The Republic
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To The United Nations
866, United Nations Plaza, Suite 304,
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18 June 2021

Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to my letter dated 10 June 2021 in my capacity as the Chair-designate of 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).

At the outset, let me share with you that efforts to develop a revised proposal of the modalities and the draft agenda for BMS7 are ongoing. I conducted a Bureau Meeting this morning on those issues and agreed to undertake further outreach on both issues in the coming days, before circulating further information and revised proposals to delegations in due course. I know that both issues are a priority for delegations, and I will ensure that progress is made in a timely manner.

In the meantime, I would like us to make some progress on our substantive discussions so we can make use of the limited time we have left until BMS7.

I intend to conduct a series of informal consultations on Draft 1 on Tuesday, 22nd and Thursday, 24th June from 3 to 5 pm, respectively, and convene informal consultations on the topic of new technologies – specifically opportunities and challenges presented by recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design on Friday, 25 June 2021. This consultation on new technologies will be held from 10am-12pm NY time (EDT).

I have announced in previous consultations that I have requested Belgium to facilitate these informal consultations on new technologies.

In line with past practice, these informal consultations will be held in a virtual format via Microsoft Teams. A link and technical guide have been shared accordingly.

During the first two consultations, we will continue our deliberations on Draft 1. Delegations will be given the opportunity to comment again on agenda item A and then sequentially on the other items as we move forward.

As I have previously indicated, the dedicated informal consultation on new technologies is planned pursuant to the outcome document of the Third Review Conference that stressed the importance of informal consultations on this subject, with a view to facilitating consensus on this issue (*See A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3, Section V, paragraph 3*).

I am, therefore, pleased to introduce Ms. Caroline Pailhe of the Permanent Mission of Belgium to the United Nations who will facilitate the discussions on 25 June 2021. I thank Ms. Pailhe and Belgium for their support.

With a view to supporting Member States in their preparations for the 25th June consultations, I am sharing with delegations the attached annex that includes a non-exhaustive list of relevant documents. The list demonstrates the wealth of material available to us in preparing for our exchange on new technologies in the context of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument.

In order to enhance the exchange and set-the-scene for interactive discussions, I have also invited the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to offer a substantive presentation on the topic. I trust this will be of great benefit to all participating delegations.

I therefore propose the following agenda to guide our informal discussions on new technologies:

- A. Opening by the Chair-designate**
- B. Introduction by the Facilitator**
- C. Presentation by a representative of UNIDIR**
- D. Informal exchange of views moderated by the Facilitator**
- E. Closing remarks by the Chair-designate**

I look forward to a productive and constructive exchange of views at next week's informal consultations.

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

**ANNEX: Non-exhaustive list of documents relevant to the theme
“Opportunities and challenges presented by recent developments in small arms and
light weapons manufacturing, technology and design”**

[Chair’s summary of the Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts of the UN Programme of Action](#), 9-13 May 2011.

Report of the Second United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in 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, [A/CONF.192/2012/RC/4](#), 27 August-7 September 2012. *See Annex II, Section B.*

Recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design and implications for the International Tracing Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons: Report of the Secretary-General, [A/CONF.192/BMS/2014/1](#), 6 May 2014.

[Chair’s summary of the Second Open-ended Meeting of Governmental Experts of the UN Programme of Action](#), 1-5 June 2015.

Report of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, [A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/2](#), 6-10 June 2016. *See Section II, Section III A (paragraphs 91-93).*

Report of the Third United Nations Conference to Review Progress Made in 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, [A/CONF.192/2018/RC/3](#), 18-29 June 2018. *See Section II, A 4 (paragraphs 52-58); Section III, F (paragraphs 22-26).*

The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects and assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them: Report of the Secretary-General, [A/74/187](#), 17 July 2019. *See Section IV (paragraphs 69-83).*