REFERENCE: ODA-2021-00079

SUBJECT: Expressions of interest to nominate experts for the group of governmental experts on the continuing operation and relevance of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and its further development

The Office for Disarmament Affairs wishes to draw the attention of Member States to resolution 74/53 entitled “Transparency in armaments”, by which the General Assembly:

*Reaffirms* its decision, with a view to further development of the Register, to keep the scope of, participation in and use of the Register under review, and to that end requests the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a group of governmental experts to be convened for a week each at the end of 2021 and at the beginning and in the middle of 2022 within existing resources, with the broadest possible participation, and on the basis of equitable geographical representation, to prepare a report on the continuing operation and relevance of the Register, including by exploring the relationship between the participation in, scope of and use of the Register, and its further development, taking into account the work of the Conference on Disarmament, relevant deliberations within the United Nations, the views expressed by Member States and the reports of the Secretary-General on the continuing operation of the Register and its further development, with a view to taking a decision at its seventy-seventh session.

The above-referenced group of governmental experts (GGE) will meet for three one-week meetings, which are tentatively scheduled to take place on 17-21 January, 4-8 April and 27 June-1 July 2022, in New York (first session) and Geneva (second and third sessions). Travel costs and daily subsistence allowance of selected experts will be covered by the United Nations.

The Office for Disarmament Affairs would be pleased to receive by **25 October 2021** from interested Member States, by note verbale or other written means, information regarding a possible qualified expert (including name, title and affiliation) they would propose if invited to nominate an expert to participate in this GGE. The information should be sent to Mr. Takuma Haga, e-mail: takuma.haga@un.org, fax: 917-367-1757.

The receipt of an expression of interest containing such information will be duly taken into account when considering the composition of the Group. The Group will be established on the basis of equitable geographic distribution and with a view to achieving the full and equal participation of women in all such bodies, in accordance with relevant resolutions of the General Assembly\(^1\) and the Secretary-General’s Agenda for Disarmament.\(^2\)

Kindly note that the provision of expressions of interest and early information regarding a possible expert does not guarantee an invitation to nominate an expert to participate in the Group. Upon a decision by the Secretary-General on the final composition of the GGE, Member States invited to nominate experts will be notified by letter.

22 September 2021

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\(^1\) See A/RES/65/69 “Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control” and subsequent resolutions adopted under this item.

\(^2\) See Actions 36 and 37.