

**Eighth 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**

New York, 27 June – 1 July 2022

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## **BMS8 Outcome Document – Zero Draft2**

### **1. Consideration of 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, at the national regional and global levels.**

Reconfirming the commitment of States to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, in strict adherence to the principles of international law recognized in the Charter of the United Nations and the international commitments undertaken.

- Review of actions agreed at the RevCon3, BMS7 and previous PoA meetings:

#### National level

- States' responsibility for combating illicit trade of SALW: strengthening regulatory, policy, legislative and operational measures (including voluntary national target-setting).
- National controls to the entire life cycle of SALW to minimize the risk of diversion and the illicit transfer to illegal armed groups, criminals, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients.
- National reporting, including on SDG indicator 16.4.2.
- Gender mainstreaming.
- Inter-state cooperation and border control.

- Advocacy, awareness raising and partnership, including with relevant NGOs.
- Development and operationalization of national action plans for the implementation of the PoA.
- Capacity-building.

#### Regional level

- Role of regional and sub-regional organizations/arrangements:
  - Regional and sub-regional cooperation.
  - Regional best practices.
  - Reporting synergies between the PoA and applicable regional/subregional instruments to ease reporting burden.
  - Regional arrangements/roadmaps, where applicable (including regional target-setting as agreed by the states concerned).
  - Capacity-building for regional organizations

#### Global level

- Link between illicit trade of SALW and crime, terrorism and drug trafficking:
  - Drivers of the illicit trade in SALW.
  - Nexus between peace, security and development.
  - 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Goal 16, targets 16.1 and 16.4; armed violence reduction; and peaceful and just societies.
  - SG's Disarmament Agenda.
  - Role of research, civil society, and industry.
  - Gender perspectives, including UNSCR 1325 (2000) and others.
  - Ban of development and trade of toy guns that can be converted to functional weapons.
  - Illicit online trade.
- PoA in the context of conflict and post-conflict settings:
  - Impact of the illicit trade in SALW.

- o Strengthening national capacities.
- o UN and regional peace support operations, in particular destruction of surplus weapons and monitoring and tracing.
- Reinforcement of national control measures in line with other relevant global instruments.
- Voluntary targets to strengthen national ownership and measurability of implementation.
- Trafficking of disassembled weapons parts.
- The PoA and the question of ammunition: progress of the work of the OEWG on Ammunition Through-life Management
- Preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of small arms and light weapons to unauthorized recipients.

### **The Way Forward**

- ⇒ To submit voluntary national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Fourth Review Conference in 2024 in a timely manner, recognizing the importance of such reports to assess progress made in the implementation of the Programme of Action, to build confidence and promote transparency, as well as to identify needs and opportunities for international cooperation and assistance.
- ⇒ To request the Secretariat to prepare an analysis of progress in the implementation of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, based on available information, including information submitted and/or provided by Member States, for presentation at the Fourth Review Conference for its consideration and appropriate follow up. Prior to its presentation at the Fourth Review Conference, the findings and recommendations will be shared with Member States in informal meeting(s).
- ⇒ To ensure coordination between national focal points responsible for the implementation of the Programme of Action and national focal points

responsible for implementing the Women, Peace and Security agenda, including in responding to relevant sections of voluntary national reports, and to encourage the sharing of good practice and experiences between them at national, regional and global levels on harmonizing national policies, including action plans, on small arms and light weapons and the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

## **2. Consideration of the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons**

Bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions, States resolve to undertake the following measures to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit manufacture and trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, as well as their diversion and illicit international transfer to unauthorized recipients:

- Review of actions agreed at the RevCon3, BMS7 and previous PoA meetings.
- ITI in the context of conflict and post-conflict settings:
  - o UN and regional peace support operations, in particular, for tracing.
  - o Tracing in conflict- and post conflict zones.
- Marking, record-keeping and tracing for preventing and combating the diversion and the illicit international transfer of small arms and light weapons to unauthorized recipients.
- Tracing requests based on enhanced national coordination mechanisms.
- Investigation and legal cooperation for tracing requests.
- Appropriate use of new technologies in strengthening the implementation of the ITI:
  - o Durable and cost-effective marking options.
  - o Role of manufacturers and exporting States.

- Consideration of the proposal of an open-ended technical expert group that could develop action-oriented next steps agreed by consensus that address challenges and opportunities of new technologies.

### **The Way Forward**

- ⇒ To implement the commitments on marking, record-keeping and tracing contained in the International Tracing Instrument regardless of the materials or methods used in the manufacture of small arms and light weapons.
- ⇒ To exchange views at RevCon4 on recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, in particular polymer and modular weapons, for the establishment of a mechanism and measures to address these developments.
- ⇒ To assess ways of addressing the recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design, particularly through strengthening international cooperation by means of technology transfer, technical assistance and financial support.
- ⇒ To encourage the reinforcement of the international cooperation and assistance to the use of new technologies for marking, record-keeping and tracing, where available, in strengthening the implementation of the International Tracing Instrument in light of recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design.

### **3. Consideration of international cooperation and assistance, including capacity-building, and means of enhancing modalities and procedures for international cooperation and assistance**

Noting the need for adequate, measurable, sustainable, unconditional, non-discriminatory and timely international cooperation and assistance to ensure the

full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

- Review of actions agreed at RevCon3, BSM7 and previous PoA meetings.
- International cooperation between law enforcement agencies to prevent unauthorized recipients, including criminals and terrorists, from acquiring SALW.
- Financial and technical assistance
- Transfer of technologies and equipment, including X-ray devices.
- Assistance in the areas of marking, recordkeeping, and tracing.
- Bilateral and multilateral cooperation through the exchange of information and experience.
- Sustainability of international cooperation and assistance.
- Exchange on the challenges States face in achieving cooperation and assistance
- Concrete follow-up steps to enhance cooperation and assistance mechanism
- Value of assistance requests and indicators to match needs with resources
- Matching needs with resources
- Dedicated fellowship training programme on small arms and light weapons in order to strengthen technical knowledge and expertise in areas related to the implementation of the PoA/ITI: funding, administrative arrangements and establishment.

### **The Way Forward**

⇒ States recognized that the development of appropriate normative frameworks, dedicated structures, procedures and capabilities, including doctrine, organisational development as well as adequate training, equipment, personnel, finance, infrastructure and security management, are required to build sustainable capacities to manage small arms and light weapons stockpiles throughout their life-cycle.

- ⇒ To encourage the conduct of baseline assessments, as a joint undertaking by requesting and donor States as mutually agreed, in the context of requests for international cooperation and assistance under the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, with a view to addressing needs in a comprehensive and sustainable manner and fostering confidence between all stakeholders.
- ⇒ To develop options for enhancing the international assistance framework in support of the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, including establishing a structured procedure to process requests for assistance submitted under the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, for consideration and appropriate follow-up by Member States at the Fourth Review Conference.
- ⇒ To request the Secretariat, in cooperation with other relevant UN entities, to develop options for enhancing the governance of the modular small-arms implementation compendium, including through strengthening the role of Member States in its further development and through considering reviews of the compendium, for consideration and appropriate follow up by Member States at the Fourth Review Conference.

#### **4. Other issues and topics for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.**

- Exchange of views on RevCon4