



**Permanent Mission of the United Republic of Tanzania
to the United Nations**

check against delivery

**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF
TANZANIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

**STATEMENT OF THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA AT THE
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**

by

Dr. Edson Mwabukojo (Counsellor, Political, Peace & Security Affairs)

**New York,
27 June 2022**

307 East 53rd Street, Room 500

**New York, NY 10022
Tel. No. 212-697-3612 Fax No. 212-697-3618**

Mr. Chairperson,

The United Republic of Tanzania congratulates you and all officers on your election and assures you of its full support and cooperation.

1. The delegation of the United Republic of Tanzania is honored to be part of this eighth biennial meeting of States to review the implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons caliber in all its aspects. The Tanzanian delegation aligns itself fully with the statements made by Nigeria on behalf of the African Group.

Mr. Chairperson,

2. Tanzania commends all actors around the world who have dedicated themselves to combating the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons. In this regard, we would like to assure you that Tanzania will continue to support international measures against this trade which poses an indiscriminate threat to our present and future generations.

3. Tanzania has recognized the threats posed by the non-state actors with regard to the illegal trafficking of small arms and light weapons. As previous speakers have said, the proliferation of such weapons poses a serious threat to human security because it is linked to other serious crimes, including terrorism. Of greatest concern is the fact that as Internet technology continues to be accessible to all and interaction among international actors continues to increase, the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons caliber also continues to increase. In this situation, it is easy for non-state actors to gain access to said weapons.

Mr. Chairperson,

4. African States are victims of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and their capacity to contain this threat is limited. Some of the factors that hinder prevention and control initiatives include;

- i. Africa is neither a major manufacturer nor supplier of said weapons, therefore, we are Limited in terms of supply control;
- ii. Internal conflicts;
- iii. Constraints in the control of maritime and land borders;
- iv. Lack of know-how;
- v. Limited cooperation in information sharing; and
- vi. Insufficient detection, recording and tracing technologies;

Having said that, the Tanzanian delegation would like to highlight the following as measures against the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons:-

- i. Each country should strengthen its capacity to collect, record and share information;
- ii. we propose the creation of a dedicated international database as a mechanism to contain the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons;
- iii. International actors and advanced countries should support developing countries in terms of facilities, technology and capacity building; and
- iv. developing countries are embarking on the creation of last mile police stations as well as integrating the local community as a strategy against the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

I thank you for your kind attention