

NMUN•NY 2021



28 – 31 March 2021

Documentation of the Work of the General Assembly First Committee (GA1) NMUN Simulation*



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Conference A

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General Assembly First Committee (GA1)

Committee Staff

Director
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Chair

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Agenda

- I. The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects
- II. Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Region of the Middle East
- III. Advancing Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace in the Context of International Security

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
GA1/1/1	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	68 votes in favor, 6 votes against, 5 abstentions
GA1/1/2	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	67 votes in favor, 2 votes against, 10 abstentions
GA1/1/3	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	62 votes in favor, 7 votes against, 10 abstentions
GA1/1/4	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	Adopted by acclamation
GA1/1/5	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	Adopted by acclamation
GA1/1/6	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	60 votes in favor, 9 votes against, 10 abstentions
GA1/1/7	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	65 votes in favor, 5 votes against, 9 abstentions
GA1/1/8	The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects	57 votes in favor, 14 votes against, 8 abstentions

Summary Report

The General Assembly First Committee held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

- I. The Establishment of a Nuclear Weapon Free Zone in the Region of the Middle East
- II. Advancing Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace in the Context of International Security
- III. The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects

The session was attended by representatives of 79 Member States and one Observer.

On Sunday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order III, I, and II, beginning discussion on the topic of “The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) in All Its Aspects”. By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of nine proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics, including, but not limited to, tracking of firearms and ammunition, stockpile management, education programs, gender-based violence, local cooperation, and partnership with NGOs. The atmosphere in the committee benefitted from collaboration, having completed agenda-setting by the end of session one, thereupon gathering for substantial debate. By the end of session six, common ground was found by two working groups, having merged their ideas notably on the enlargement of the mandate of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects.

On Wednesday, eight draft resolutions had been approved by the Dais. For one draft resolution an amendment was proposed. The committee adopted eight resolutions following voting procedure, two of which received unanimous support by the body through adoption by acclamation. The resolutions represented a wide range of issues, including cross-border cooperation of the regional centers of the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs, and the implementation of methods of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration to counter the illicit trade in SALW. Albeit negotiating in the digital space, the delegates still mastered the art of diplomacy and championed consensus-finding through different time-zones, bringing the NMUN spirit to their very own hometowns.



Code: GA1/1/1

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Reaffirming the General Assembly First Committee's mission to promote international peace and security as defined in the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945),

Recognizes the severity of the pandemic sweeping across the world and the strain that it has caused on the current funding of the United Nations,

Deeply concerned by the damages and harms committed upon various citizens of the world caused by the provision of illicit arms through small arms and light weapons (SALWs) trade,

Understanding the importance that the legal arms trade plays in states' economies as demonstrated in the support and adoption of the *Arms Trade Treaty* established in 2013,

Taking into consideration Articles 3 and 5 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948) to ensure life, liberty, and security,

Emphasizing the priority of the complete and consistent implementation of the *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* (2001), adopted by the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, and establishing its importance in promoting the safety and security of all international members,

Building on the successes of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) of 2005, which has helped Member States identify and trace the movement of small arms and light weapons across borders according to a 2021 trend study by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute,

Referring to the definition of SALWs by the ITI, "any man-portable lethal weapon that expels or launches, is designed to expel or launch, or may be readily converted to expel or launch a shot, bullet or projectile by the action of an explosive, excluding antique small arms and light weapons or their replicas [...] antique small arms and light weapons and their replicas will be defined in accordance with domestic law. In no case will antique small arms and light weapons include those manufactured after 1899",

Noting the differences between small arms and light weapons as stated by the ITI, "small arms are, broadly speaking, weapons designed for individual use [...] they include, inter alia, revolvers and self-loading pistols, rifles and carbines, sub-machine guns, assault rifles and light machine guns",

Noting further from the ITI, "light weapons' are, broadly speaking, weapons designed for use by two or three persons serving as a crew, although some may be carried and used by a single person [...] they include, inter alia, heavy machine guns, hand-held under-barrel and mounted grenade launchers, portable anti-aircraft guns, portable anti-tank guns, recoilless rifles, portable launchers of anti-tank missile and rocket systems, portable launchers of anti-aircraft missile systems, and mortars of a calibre of less than 100 millimetres",

Taking into account the definition of terrorism provided by Security Council resolution 1566 (2004) on "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts" stating "criminal acts, including against civilians, committed with the intent to cause death or serious bodily injury, or taking of hostages, with the purpose to provoke a state of terror in the general public or in a group of persons

or particular persons, intimidate a population or compel a government or an international organization to do or to abstain from doing any act”,

Acknowledging the possible economic disincentive for Member States with a large arms trade industry regarding additional tracing regulations through microstamping,

Highlighting the work of INTERPOL’s Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS) program, which gives Member States a place to track data on SALWs, and the need to strengthen this program in order for it to be most effective,

Underlining the work of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in establishing the United Nations SaferGuard Programme to oversee the effective implementation of the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG) as requested by General Assembly resolution 63/61 on “Problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus”,

Observing Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” concerning support for terrorist organizations, especially in regard to supplying SALWs,

Noting also the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) program, which combats weapons trafficking to terrorist groups through national capacity building measures,

Mindful of Sustainable Development Goal target 16.4, that aims to considerably reduce illicit financial and arms trade, strengthen the recovery and the return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime by the year 2030,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1373 (2001) on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and Member States’ duty to refrain from providing any form of support to violent non-state actors or groups, including the supply of SALWs,

Bearing in mind the key role combating the illicit arms trade plays in achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16, which aims to reduce illicit financial and arms flows,

Thanking the Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) for their projects in regard to promoting the *Arms Trade Treaty* (ATT) on both a regional and local level, and their efforts in organizing parliamentary workshops to educate local politicians and lawmakers about the effects of SALW trade on women and children, and their efforts in organizing parliamentary workshops to educate local politicians and lawmakers about the effects of SALW trade on women and children,

Further recalling General Assembly report 60/88 in 2005 on the “Open-ended Working Group to Negotiate an International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons”,

Calling attention to the growing capabilities and accessibility of 3D printing technology and its possible use in the illicit manufacturing of firearms as noted by a 2016 study done by Armament Research Services,

Mindful of domestic precedents in regulatory framework regarding 3D weapons blueprints, such as the United States Arms Export Control Act (AECA) limiting the exports of weapons to international governments to legitimate instances of self-defense and providing various criteria concerning the export’s purpose,

Keeping in mind other domestic frameworks moderating the circulation of weapons information and technology, such as the United States International Trafficking in Arms Regulation (ITAR) requiring that information and/or material regarding defense- and military-related technologies may only be

shared with US persons without special exemption or prior authorization from the United States Department of State,

1. *Encourages* the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to host hands-on training workshops on ammunition stockpile management and transportation for law enforcement organizations in Member States using the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines Implementation Support Toolkit as a capacity building measure to improve the implementation of the IATG under the UN SaferGuard Programme;
2. *Calls upon* Member States to consider adopting or incorporating gender-focused and gender-responsive small arms control programming by engaging in the following programs and introducing them at the regional level to increase collaboration and the sharing of best practices:
 - a. UNREC's In-Country Training Programme on Gender Mainstreaming Small Arms Control, which serves as a training program for policymakers on integrating gender-responsive frameworks into national action plans (NAPs) on small arms and light weapons;
 - b. UNLIREC's virtual conferences on Firearms Control to Reduce Violence Against Women, which acts as an educational platform for policymakers and government officials to ensure that the gendered impact of the illicit trade of SALWs is considered when forming national policies and domestic legislation;
 - c. UNODA's Global Gender and SALW Project to make research on the impacts of the illicit trade of SALWs on women and girls available to policymakers, facilitate regional and sub-regional dialogues to strengthen women's empowerment in regional small arms initiatives, provide technical assistance on harmonizing domestic policies with international frameworks, and increase engagement from civil society organizations (CSOs);
3. *Endorses* the strengthening of stockpile management by Member States using the latest advancements in technology and physical security aided by UNODA, and ensure that excess stockpiles are either secured or destroyed, by:
 - a. Using the latest technologies including a blockchain system where the blockchain will hold an end user certificate:
 - i. Which will include the following: The importer, exporter, end user, end use, item, quantity, total monetary value, signature of end user, and verifying stamp;
 - ii. The blockchain will help with distributed data and decentralized access, data integrity, transparency, and automation;
 - b. Latest technologies will also include digital armory management systems and tracking services, which will ensure that arms stay on premises;
4. *Strongly requests* Member States to consider the implementation of domestic regulatory policy for 3D weapons blueprints, keeping in mind other domestic legislation efforts including, but not limited to, AECA and ITAR;
5. *Urges* Member States to expand the use of microstamping technologies as mentioned in the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) to place microscopic identifiers on different SALW

components to combat the issue of serial number/identification mark removal by brokers and SALW traffickers;

6. *Recommends* that SALW and ammunition manufacturers expand efforts to microstamp ammunition through a mechanism on SALWs that imprints a microscopic identifier on ammunition when the weapon is fired, allowing law enforcement officials to identify the weapon used through found ammunition;
7. *Requests* that microstamping be conducted by manufacturers, as well as any relevant NGOs, and other bodies to provide tracing methods for both newly produced and circulating SALWs;
8. *Encourages* the expansion of current microstamping efforts to ensure the microstamping of SALWs at port of entry and port of exit as to make it easier to the route of SALWs;
9. *Suggests* that SALW and modular arms producers microstamp multiple parts and components of modular SALWs to reduce the ability of traffickers or brokers to avoid tracing by replacing different parts;
10. *Further requests* Member States to establish unique microstamps for each SALW and ammunition producer in coordination with the Group of Governmental Experts on Brokering Controls to ensure that each producer in the world has a unique microstamp to help law enforcement officials distinguish between different SALW manufacturers and identify the source of diverted SALWs;
11. *Invites* UNODA to verify microstamping efforts biannually through inspection visits of SALWs producing factories;
12. *Suggests* the development of an international database, modeled after INTERPOL's Illicit Arms Records and tracing Management System (iARMS) program, to be used as a platform for all Member States and other relevant bodies or organizations to submit microstamping data to help identify and disrupt SALW trafficking routes;
13. *Strongly recommends* that Member States and other reporting bodies use the international database mentioned previously to ensure that all data obtained is presented in a frictionless manner, allowing both the international community and also competent national authorities access to that information in a timely manner;
14. *Asks* Member States facilitate the designation of separate microstamps for all SALW or ammunition producers within their own borders, as well as to collect microstamping reports from said producers to be shared with and stored in a repository under the international database mentioned above;
15. *Endorses* providing economic incentives to counter the costs of additional arms regulations for affected Member States and/or firms, by way of:
 - a. Requesting cooperation from the World Bank in lowering interest rates for loans offered to recompense the costs of developing microstamping technology and infrastructure;
 - b. Allowing express customs transportation for firearms exports under verification of proper microstamping by a United Nations official;
 - c. Creating a national financial indicator based on the fulfillment of microstamping campaigns, management of stockpiles, non-proliferation of small arms, domestic laws, and overall compliance with data gathering initiatives in order to provide foreign investment opportunities appropriately reflecting regional stability;

- i. Political stability and regional stability are some of the factors that hedge funds, financial institutions, and family offices consider when investing in developing countries, especially in post-conflict areas;
- ii. The data will be collected from previous stated sources and will be collected by a group of experts as set up by the Secretariat, which will also oversee the indicator.



Code: GA1/1/2

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Noting the importance of Article 2 and 51 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), and emphasizing that national sovereignty, in the midst of all SALWs legislation discussions, is respectively upheld,

Reiterating Articles 3 and 5 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), which enshrine the rights to life, liberty, and security, which are undermined by the illicit trade of SALWs,

Acknowledging that the General Assembly First Committee's core principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are undermined by the illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) as it upsets and hinders the ability to facilitate peace and development domestically and internationally,

Recognizing that pre-existing domestic policies and rights regarding the trade, sale, ownership, transport, and manufacture of legal SALWs takes precedence when discussing intergovernmental legislative agendas,

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) (2001) to prevent trafficking and stockpiling of illegal SALWs,

Considering the United Nations Coordinating Action on Small Arms (CASA) to encourage interagency collaboration in the field of small arms and to support Member States at a national and regional level,

Reaffirming the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) initiative, which addresses the supply perspective in reducing the illicit trade of SALWs, including the support for stockpile and border management, for capacity building of national institutions in law enforcement and criminal justice, and for strengthening legislation,

Guided by the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA), which seeks to increase transparency by reporting arms trade sales, monitoring SALW trade, and aiding in the detection of illegal activities,

Mindful of the ability of the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) to provide flexible funding to Member States that require financial assistance regarding resources for SALW regulation,

Recalling the dangerous characteristics of SALWs and ammunition stockpiles that lack security, including their long-lifespan, subtle size, transportation, and recyclable nature,

Emphasizing the importance of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) on "Women, peace and security" and 2242 (2015) on "Women and Peace and Security" stressing the importance of women's participation in post-conflict peace processes to ensure enduring political stability,

Commending United Nations Security Council resolution 2195 (2014) on "Threats to international peace and security" for fighting transnational threats such as terrorism, the trafficking of weapons, and organized crime,

Aware that weapons obtained illegally by individuals through diversion tactics perpetuates the illicit trade in SALWs,

Keeping in mind the importance of enforcing existing domestic policies that ban the unlicensed ownership of SALWs,

Expressing appreciation for educative programs such as regional workshops and initiatives established by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union on the Silencing the Guns Initiative that aim to combat local issues stemming from the illicit trade of SALWs,

Cognizant that, according to UNODA, armed violence affects men, women, children, and vulnerable communities in inverse ways when creating policies against the illicit trade and activities of SALWs, since pre-existing measures mainly respect a male perspective, thus, female as well as vulnerable groups lack sufficient resources and representation in society,

Draws attention to the stabilizing effects of women in disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR), who can help create community policing, as well as support male ex-combatants and children associated with fighting forces,

Taking into consideration General Assembly resolution 75/56 on “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them” and the need to assist less-developed Member States, without the resources to manage issues stemming from illicit small arms and light weapons trading,

Noting with deep concern the dangers posed by stockpiles of SALWs and ammunitions, as expressed in the report of the Group of Governmental Experts on Further Steps to Enhance Cooperation with Regard to the Issue of Conventional Ammunition Stockpiles in Surplus and the 2018 Secretary-General Agenda for Disarmament,

1. *Fully supports* the groundwork laid out in the PoA and expertise from knowledgeable Member States as an efficient and comprehensive approach for tackling these issues:
 - a. Notes that dialogue surrounding implementation has led to over-saturation of ideas and has affected the pace of potential adoption;
 - b. Highlights the need to combat the lack of recognition for the illicit trade of ammunition within the PoA;
 - c. Stresses the importance of altering policies on a domestic level to eventually see international progress, specifically in line with universal transfer and re-transfer bans;
 - d. Promotes transparency in legislation so Member States can offer support, aid, and advice between each other to enact the recommended programs;
 - e. Calling upon developed and larger nations to nominate themselves to offer support to regions, especially post-conflict areas;
2. *Commends* the establishment of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA) and welcomes the voluntary establishment of domestic policy geared toward gun registration and a yearly gun re-registration program by Member States for the purpose of:
 - a. Encouraging Member States to implement and improve domestic policies and practices that enforce proper licensing of SALWs through:

- i. Universal border inspections by Member State institutions for illicit SALWs and licensed SALWs;
 - ii. Training programs organized by the PoA that improve the abilities of Member States' border control to discover and confiscate any illicit SALW;
 - b. Continued contribution to UNROCA and expanding the number of SALW categories reported;
 - c. Tracking the ownership of SALWs among citizens within the borders of Member States for the purpose of:
 - i. Exchanging information on the regional and global level that covers best practices on the enforcement of SALW licensing, including border control and tracking techniques;
 - ii. Enforcing by Member States of end-user certificates (EUCs), which help keep SALWs from diversion to the illicit market;
 - d. Preventing minors from obtaining SALWs to tackle straw manning issues;
- 3. *Condemns* any action taken by the United Nations or any regional body that infringes upon the rights of Member States as stipulated by the United Nations Charter:
 - a. Including the rights to sovereign equality of Member States as guaranteed in Article 2 Section 1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945);
 - b. Including the prevention of United Nations intervention in domestic affairs of Member States, as guaranteed in Article 2 Section 7 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945);
 - c. Including the right to use SALWs for legitimate self-defense, as guaranteed in Article 51 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and liberation of occupied territories;
 - d. Ensuring that all funding is voluntary and does not violate the domestic policy of Member States;
- 4. *Encourages* international recognition of the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) initiative, especially in the disposal and protection of stockpiles of SALWs and ammunitions such that they do not enter the illicit arms trade, including:
 - a. PoA cooperation at the regional and national level such as the United Nations Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament;
 - b. Financial assistance shall come from the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) to regional organizations to assist with Member States' ability to dispose and protect stockpiles of SALWs and ammunitions;
 - c. Assisting less-developed Member States with the development of infrastructure to properly recycle SALWs and ammunition stockpiles by more-developed Member States;
 - d. Funding from SALIENT to regional organizations;
 - e. Recommends the expansion of the SALIENT program to include dealing with ammunition stockpiles;

5. *Recommends* the introduction of the Involved Locals Against Weapons Program (InLAWs) program, which will be a meeting and exchange platform specifically targeted towards communities close to borders in Member States, which cannot provide sufficient infrastructure and resources to inhibit the illegal cross-border trade in SALWs, in order to:
 - a. Offer a universal and modular framework, which can be adapted to local circumstances and environments including members of local and regional NGOs, representatives of affected Member States, as well as local communities;
 - b. Enable cross-border communication between local communities and security authorities;
 - c. Encourage quarterly meetings where all sides exchange information and establish networks for information-sharing that are tailored towards local needs in order to deprive traffickers of their local support structures;
 - d. Implement the program under the auspices of the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and funding by UNODA's SALIENT;
6. *Supports* Member States recognize the vulnerable position of women and other marginalized groups in disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) of illicit SALWs, by:
 - a. Providing welfare assistance to incapacitated persons disabled by illicit weapons, with the help of SALIENT funds;
 - b. Ensuring all marginalized groups are considered before the implementation of anti-SALW policies;
7. *Invites* Member States to implement measures that promote women's roles in DDR in affected regions on a local level, by:
 - a. Locally conducting public awareness events on the stabilizing and pacifying effects of women's empowerment;
 - b. Offering women complementary capacity building workshops to develop tools for effective civic engagement empowering communities to deny arms trafficker support;
8. *Further recommends* the implementation of regional workshops similar to those founded by the IDB and civil society organizations, as well as the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union on the Silencing the Guns Initiative in an effort to improve and educate local police agencies in the management of small arms conflicts and trading, by:
 - a. Learning about the cultures of local communities and listening to personal experiences involving conflicts related to SALWs;
 - b. Utilizing the experiences and anecdotes of said communities as well as neighboring regions to educate members of policing agencies on the dangers and inner workings of SALW conflicts and trading;
 - c. Monitoring government policies and holding them accountable as advocates for not only vulnerable populations within the community, but the community as a whole;
9. *Welcomes* the modernization of the existing technological database that is the International Tracing Instrument (ITI), which aims to better identify illicit SALWs at global borders, by:

- a. Making use of the latest 5G technologies by encouraging these networks to operate internationally and connect to devices regardless of the region;
 - b. Allowing significant control to relevant NGOs and non-state actors in order to limit nationalistic influence on developing powers;
 - c. Enhancing the existing technological resources to be more understandable for education purposes regarding state border security and policing by establishing an annual report that does not make use of technological jargon;
 - d. Insisting on the enforcement of domestic policies and increased security in the production and distribution of weapons in order to limit their accessibility to illicit distributors;
10. *Supports* different funding initiatives by Member States to enact the recommended policies, such as the establishment of domestic gun registration programs, border programs, and training programs, including, but not limited to:
- a. Finance by the United Nations Women's Development Fund for Women;
 - b. Voluntary funding from public-private partnerships, such as domestic, governmental organizations responsible for the monitoring of trade, sales, and manufacturing for SALWs working alongside private companies to create necessary databases for gun registration programs, border programs, and training programs;
 - c. Domestic funding by Member States' individual governments for existing or newly proposed policies, such as a gun registration program, confined to its borders.



Code: GA1/1/3

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Keeping in mind the importance of education regarding SALWs, in order to raise awareness about the dangers of illegal arms trafficking and, consequently, reduce the number of crimes throughout the world, by using UNESCO's national plan of action Education for All as an example,

Deeply concerned that there are an estimated one billion small arms and light weapons (SALWs) worldwide, as found in 2019 by the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs in the report of the Secretary-General on small arms and light weapons (S/2019/1011),

Acknowledging the previous work done by the United Nations, as in the adoption of the *Arms Trade Treaty* (2013), as well as General Assembly resolution 73/51 on "Information on Confidence-Building Measures in the Field of Conventional Arms" in building trust and transparency between Member States,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 53/243 on "Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace", which promoted the improvement of SALW laws and stockpile management,

Cognizant of the fact that over half of all violent deaths between 2010 and 2015 were a result of illicit, unmarked, and unregulated SALWs, as was presented to the Security Council by the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs in 2020 on the Secretary-General's report on small arms and light weapons (S/PV.8713),

Guided by the precedent set forward by the Modular Small-Arms-Control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC), in establishing legal frameworks and providing structural support on conducting joint border operations to combat the illicit trade of SALWs,

Deploing that nearly 500,000 people die annually from small arms and light weapons, as found by International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War in their report *Facts about Small Arms and Light Weapons* (2010), of which many are obtained illegally,

Taking into consideration the lack of cooperation regarding Member States reporting conclusive data to one another concerning the imports/exports of small arms and light weapons in an efficient, organized, and comprehensive manner as explained in the United Nations Development Programme report *How to Guide - The Establishment and Functioning of National Small Arms and Light Weapons Commissions* (2008),

Reconfirming the importance of enhancing transparency between Member States in regard to the trade of SALWs within and outside of cyberspace,

Seeking to strengthen the public reporting system of activities featuring the use of illegally acquired SALWs ensure that adequate resources are made available, as stated in the 2001 *Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects* (A/CONF.192/15),

Expressing appreciation for the work of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA) in the report *Transparency in Armaments through the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms*, which recently added SALWs to its list of relevant weapons, in analyzing and receiving reports on arms exports and imports, thereby improving transparency among Member States,

Bearing in mind the threat posed by unguarded weapon stockpiles of ammunition and SALWs, and the potential of unauthorized access by civilians or non-state actors to these dangerous stores as addressed by Security Council resolution 1011 (1995) on “Small Arms and Light Weapons, a Report to the Secretary-General”,

Underlining the issue of illicit SALWs trade in cyberspace, especially in the dark web, which is becoming a growing challenge for national and international security as stated in the 2018 paper by UNODA on “The Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons on the Dark Web: A Study”,

Underscoring the need to reinforce the common policy on the subjects of illicit trade in SALWs, as outlined in Sustainable Development Goal 16.4 - “by 2030 significantly reduce illicit financial and arms flows, strengthen recovery and return of stolen assets, and combat all forms of organized crime” - created by General Assembly resolution 70/1 on “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Recognizing that not all Member States have the resources available to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons as this requires significant human and economic resources, as addressed in the *Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition* (2001), Firearms Protocol,

Noting with concern that serial numbers can be removed with little ease from the receiver of a firearm, removing the ability for it to be traced and recorded upon collection by a governmental agency as referenced in the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) report 2012/2 titled “A Decade of Implementing the United Nations Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons”,

Fully alarmed at the lack of legislation regarding the requirement of serial numbers on ammunition in regard to both the *Arms Trade Treaty* (2014) and the *Nairobi Protocol* (2004),

Expressing its appreciation for organizations such as the *United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs* (UNODA) and the *United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime* (UNODC), and their collaboration amongst Member States towards the nonproliferation of SALWs on a global scale,

Noting gratitude to the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) in outlining requirements on marking, record-keeping, and international cooperation and assistance that enables the tracing of illicit SALWs,

Taking note of the work of the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts (GGE) and the Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) researching inter alia on the application of international law to cyberspace,

Considering the *Inter-American Convention against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Ammunition, Explosives and Other Related Materials* (CIFTA) (1997) standardizing the control of illicit manufacturing and trafficking in firearms facilitating their identification and tracing, which aimed to create regional standards for cooperation and transparency,

Stressing the urgent peril that SALWs pose towards communities especially as it relates to gang violence, as highlighted in the report *Everyday Life in Fear: Violence Against Children and Youth in Honduras* by NGO, *Kids In Need of Defense* (2019), which conveys the fact that youth lacking education are more likely to experience gang violence,

1. *Stresses the readiness* for all Member States to cooperate with both UNODA and UNODC to improve government officials’ abilities to manage stockpiles, bolster the security infrastructure of the facilities where SALWs are stored, collect data, and publishing studies on the illicit trafficking of small arms and light weapons;

2. *Suggests* that the *Arms Trade Treaty* be acknowledged by all Member States as a measure to increase confidence of cooperation between Member States in an effort to promote transparency and further action in dismantling the global issue of the illicit trade of SALWs;
3. *Encourages* Member States conduct domestic confiscations of illicitly circulated arms and deter the flow of unauthorized weapons, through:
 - a. Stricter regulation of the supply of light weapons by governments to be accessible only to themselves or government-authorized entities and certified civilians through legal frameworks and laws structured around the domestic sale of SALWs;
 - b. Increased cooperation of neighboring border patrols modeled after the framework outlined by the *Modular Small Arms Control Implementation Compendium* article 05.60, which outlines the benefit of rapid response in coordinating between Member States;
4. *Recommends* the *Afghan New Beginnings* program to serve as a model for Member States in protecting their weapon stockpiles and ammunition stores, as the program provides a framework to implement a rotating keypad access to these locations that changes every day to prevent unauthorized access, tampering, theft, or crime by preventing the spread of access to stockpiles through sharing of access codes;
5. *Endorses* the implementation of incentivized systems for regional and subregional governments that abide by General Assembly resolution 53/243 on “Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects of 2001”, which will act as a stimulant for cooperation between fellow signatories, as well as incentive for Member States to abide by the verbatim of General Assembly resolution 53/243, and these incentive systems range from procurement expenditures to readiness premiums, and urges an increase in voluntary funding from signatories, however will primarily receive funding from the UN Peacebuilding Fund, lastly these incentivized systems will operate based upon:
 - a. Funding and distribution which is determined via assessments stemming from the General Assembly First Committee, from the number of SALWs apprehended by the local Member States, and the density of illicit SALWs in the regions occupied by Member States determined with the combined efforts of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) and UNODA;
 - b. Funding which will be overseen by a group of experts appointed by Member States that are signatories of the *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* of 2001, both Member States and UNODA will operate on a bi-cameral basis and will meet once every two years;
6. *Supports* raising community-based public awareness programs with the support of UNODA on illegal firearms, in the pursuit of promoting alternatives to gang recruitment and the use of firearms, by:
 - a. Encouraging local school initiatives focusing on providing information on SALWs through the use of culture, sports, life skills, positive parenting, and gender identity, such as implementing programs on SALWs in schools' curriculums based on the United Nations Cyberschoolbus, which would teach students in all Member States about SALWs issues in an interactive way;

- b. Providing awareness programs to vulnerable communities on alternatives to joining gangs through the use of culture, sports, life skills, positive parenting, and gender identity, such as the *Line Up Live Up* program where sports coaches, teachers, and others working with youth in sports settings can target valuable life skills, resisting social pressures to engage in delinquency, coping with anxiety, and communicating effectively with peers through a set of interactive and fun exercises;
 - c. Implementing the use of The United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR) to allocate the necessary resources for community enforcement, capacity development, evidence-building, and victim support programs through the establishment of public private partnerships;
- 7. *Welcomes* Member States to be more transparent regarding their exports and imports of small arms and light weapons arriving and leaving their territory in order to improve international cooperation and security, by:
 - a. Declaring every transaction regarding SALWs to the international community, through the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA);
 - b. Suggesting the strengthening of UNROCAs existing resources common database, regrouping the information about imports and exports of SALW of every Member State to include every international organization, such as the Council of Europe (CoE), the African Union (AU), the Asian Cooperation Dialogue (ACD), the Pacific Islands Forum (PIF), and the Organization of American States (OAS), which would be managed by UNROCA;
- 8. *Proposes* the establishment of a group of international experts:
 - a. Organized by and reporting quarterly to UNODA;
 - b. With personnel appointed by Member States and confirmed during the annual Conference on Disarmament;
 - c. Tasked with examining the possibility of elaborating a far-reaching legislation that can prevent the risk of illicit arms trafficking in cyberspace by relying on the GGE's and OEWG's research and work on the application of international law to cyberspace;
- 9. *Further requests for* the adaptation and implementation of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) in cyberspace, which will be developed by the ITI in collaboration with Member States' experts on ICT, with the goal of adding a digital weapon marking system to the instrument's tracking tools that would take the form of radio frequency identification tags embedded into firearms;
- 10. *Affirms* the adoption of microstamping initiatives to further enable Member States to track the origin of illicit firearms as a method of designating serial numbers, which are far harder to erase, remove, or tamper thus enabling a further capability to seek out trade routes of illicit SALWs;
- 11. *Expresses its encouragement* to those Member States who lack resources through the implementation of an Independent Consultation and Investigation Mechanism (MICI) Workshop Theory and Practice which is ran by the Inter-American Development Bank with efforts to increase the share experiences about cases regarding the illicit trade of SALWs to strengthen ties with civil society organizations;

12. *Calls for* the implementation of standards by all Member States for the marking of ammunition production lines with serial numbers in line with the methods and regulations set forward by Article 8 of the *Firearms Protocol* in regard to mirroring its practices of marking all imported and manufactured items with a simple, clear, and sequential marking;
13. *Strongly recommends* the installation of educational measures with the aim of raising awareness about SALWs in the population of Member States, by the implementation of:
 - a. An interactive platform on the UNODA website, including activities and educational capsules;
 - b. Educational campaigns in partnership with United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on the matter of SALWs;
 - c. A forum on the UNODA website where all questions related to disarmament and illegal trafficking of SALWs can be addressed.



Code: GA1/1/4

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Reaffirming the principles of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), specifically Articles 1 and 11,

Bearing in mind the principles of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948), specifically the right to life, liberty, and security of a person specified in Article 3,

Considering General Assembly draft resolution A/C.2/74/L.48/Rev.1 on “Education for sustainable development in the framework of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, and General Assembly resolution 56/24 on “General and complete disarmament”, which each detail the importance and implementation of educational procedures with specific attention to disarmament and the illicit trade of weapons,

Mindful of the need for a closer cooperation within the international community due to the global nature of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as described in General Assembly resolution 55/33 on “General and complete disarmament”,

Recognizing the urgent need to tackle the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALWs) in order to promote peace and security globally, highlighted in General Assembly resolution 74/51 on “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them”, which provides assistance to states attempting to address the illicit trade in SALWs,

Expressing its appreciation and recognizing the report of the Secretary-General on “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” (A/75/78), in acknowledgement of the regional nature of this conflict amid international crisis,

Maintaining the importance of ensuring each Member State’s national sovereignty, as mentioned in Article 2 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) and General Assembly resolution 46/130 on “Respect for the principles of national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States in their electoral process”, because an international crisis with regional specificity brings up concerns of interstate sovereignty,

Recalling the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, especially Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, specifically target 16.4, which aims at causing a drastic reduction of illicit arms and financial flow, create more successful retrieval of stolen arms and assets,

Acknowledging the role of disarmament and non-proliferation education in tackling this issue, as highlighted in General Assembly resolution 73/59 on “United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education”,

Acknowledging also the fact that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons disproportionately affects developing and/or lower-income countries, as underscored in Security Council report 2019/1011 on “Small arms and light weapons” (2019),

Underlining the urgency of security in key geographic locations and that different locations have unique concerns that should be addressed equitably, which necessitates different regional offices of the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA),

Noting Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on “Women, peace and security” and General Assembly resolution 73/46 on “Women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control”, which exhorts the inclusion of gender perspective on all levels, and the vital role of women on all levels of disarmament, especially due to the gendered nature of the violence caused by illicit SALWs as it disproportionately impacts women and children,

Recalling also the United Nations’ 2016 Conference “Why Think Tanks Matter to Policy Makers and the Public”, and the ability for a think tank or other dedicated group of experts to come up with unique and innovative solutions to tackle the illicit trade of SALWs,

Appreciating the work of the Global Firearms Programme (GFP) in assisting Member States in preventing and combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components, and ammunition,

Recognizing the role of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in assisting with education regarding the importance of disarmament in promoting peace,

1. *Urges for* the creation of a United Nations-sponsored think tank, through:
 - a. Gathering specialized experts in matters of illicit trade in SALW as well as regional experts establishing a professional network of regional organizations addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;
 - b. Funding via:
 - i. The general United Nations budget, as decided by the General Assembly Fifth Committee, who has jurisdiction over said budget;
 - ii. Voluntary contributions of Member States;
 - c. A staff of experts, who may be voluntarily sent by Member States or paid out of the proposed think tank’s budget;
 - d. Positions in the regions of Asia and Oceania, South America, North America, Sub-Saharan Africa, Middle East/North Africa, and Europe;
 - e. Working with local civil society organizations and non-governmental organizations in their assigned region;
2. *Recommends* the think tank to focus on:
 - a. The efficient tracking of illegally traded arms and ammunitions through professional expertise and investigations, as well as through close collaboration with local NGOs and the civil society in the concerned regions;
 - b. The organization of workshops in partnership with UNESCO in the concerned regions of the think tank in order to raise awareness, especially among young people against the use of armed weapons;
 - c. The creation of recommendations for youth educational programs in partnership with UNESCO, which shall:
 - i. Be submitted to Member States aiming to alert the youth in the concerned areas on the dangers of SALWs;
 - ii. Be used by Member States, on a voluntary basis, to develop education programs tailored to their own circumstances;

- d. The brainstorming and reporting of creative solutions to issues concerning any problems concerning illicit transfer of small and light weapons in all respects;
 - e. The submission of an annual report to the General Assembly First Committee on their efforts and progress;
3. *Encourages* the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects (PoA) to reopen the debate on the situation of the illicit trade of ammunition on their next conference in July 2021 as the topic has not been addressed with the always evolving issues;
4. *Invites* all Member States to implement public awareness programs adapted to the unique circumstance of each Member State, which shall:
 - a. Focus on promoting the responsible use of SALWs and encouraging reducing the number of SALWs in circulation;
 - b. Encourage community cooperation and early childhood understanding of the dangers of the illicit trade in SALWs;
 - c. Include advertising campaigns and workshops targeted at specific demographics;
 - d. Be funded on a voluntary basis by Member States;
5. *Exhorts* the expansion of general procedure outlined by the Modular Small-arms Control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC) that is able to establish the efficient recovery and retrieval of stolen assets as seen fit by Member States, by:
 - a. Providing a point of location tracing in the Member State where the recovered weapon was located;
 - b. Establishing whether or not the weapon was originally legally or illegally acquired in any capacity;
6. *Encourages* the creation and innovation of Joint-Border Commissions on key geographic locations where hotspot areas lack proper surveillance and monitoring, such commissions will look to guarantee the multilateral and inter-agency work between Member States and the pertinent regional organizations, by:
 - a. Developing negotiation committees with representatives of compliant Member States to determine and assign the new Joint-Border Commissions and to allocate to those that need innovation;
 - b. Creating platforms where such border commissions, local authorities, and organizations can create constant channels of communication on a virtual gathering platform where multilateral and inter-agency cooperation can be guaranteed;
 - c. Designing commissions for capacity building by the Global Firearms Programme (GFP) on counter trafficking measures for the personnel of the commissions, and with the objective to fill knowledge gaps between all divisions;
 - d. Constituting the personnel of every border commission with at least a 40% of women with the objective of establishing gender perspective on all levels of decision-making of every single commission, and to safeguard the rights and interests of the threats that could potentially affect women;

7. *Calls for* Member States and other bodies to cooperate with the United Nations in the creation of an international database to monitor and circulate intelligence on the sale of illicit SALWs to armed groups along with the location of weapons caches, by:
 - a. Recommending the creation of a non-partisan commission that will consist of seventeen representatives appointed by member states within membership of the regional think tanks;
 - i. Such representatives delegated by Member States will make up a non-partisan commission to oversee and regulate the databases, for which six of the representatives will be appointed by Security Council Member States (permanent and non-permanent) and eleven of the representatives will be appointed by Member States of the General Assembly;
 - ii. The circulation of representatives will occur every three years, to which new Member states will be randomly chosen to appoint a representative to the committee;
 - b. Ensuring that the activity of these committees and the creation of the global databases is strictly unbiased, the status of armed groups and possible locations of caches is to be subject to review of the non-partisan committee;
 - i. Procuring evidence of the status of an armed group, which should include, but is not limited to, photo/video, eyewitness account, criminal testimony, as well as physical assets of SALWs;
 - ii. Such evidence will be provided by members of the regional think tanks who wish to divulge the status of groups it tracks, or otherwise wish the United Nations to be aware of;
 - c. All finances of the non-partisan committee and maintenance of the database will be covered by the official general budget of the United Nations.



Code: GA1/1/5

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Recalling the inalienable rights to life, liberty, and security of the person, established in Article 3 of General Assembly resolution 217A on the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (1948),

Acknowledging the efforts through different treaties, cooperation, and programs that help achieve General Assembly resolution 70/1 on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” and its target 4, that puts an emphasis on reducing illicit financial and arms flow,

Deeply concerned that approximately 500,000 people die every year from wounds caused by small arms used in conflict, crime, and other forms of violence according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) *Global Report on Firearms Trafficking* (2020),

Recalling the findings of the *2020 Report on Problems Arising from the Accumulation of Conventional Ammunition Stockpiles in Surplus* by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), most notably about the necessity of ensuring rigorous storage procedures to prevent explosions which cause disastrous humanitarian consequences,

Fully supporting Security Council resolution 2457 (2019) on “Africa, International Peace and Security, Security Council Procedures and its call for strengthening the United Nations’ relations with regional organizations, focusing primarily on the African Union and the matter of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons,

Noting with regret the lack of transparency and accountability regarding the available information on the production, usage, and transactions of small arms and light weapons (SALWs), as found by General Assembly resolution 74/36 on “Follow-up to nuclear disarmament obligations agreed to at the 1995, 2000 and 2010 Review Conferences of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons”,

Concerned by the potential effect that the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons might have on conflict eruption and civilian casualties, as reported in Security Council report 1025 (2017) on “Small arms and light weapons” (S/2017/1025),

Recalling the *Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunitions* (2005), the Firearms Protocol, which underscores undertaking legislative measures to prevent, combat, and eradicate illicit trafficking and manufacture of firearms,

Recognizing the work of the Container Control Programme (CCP), implemented by UNODC and the World Customs Organization (WCO), which works to prevent flows of illicit goods including firearms through information sharing and technical training,

Noting with appreciation the work of the UNODC Education for Justice initiative to prevent crime and reduce illicit weapons trafficking, as outlined in the UNODC and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) joint document *Strengthening the Rule of Law through Education: A Guide for Policymakers* (2019),

Deeply alarmed that the people fleeing conflict areas, who have been increasing in numbers, are most affected by the illicit trade of SALWs, as stated in the report of the Secretary-General on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (A/71/438–A/CONF.192/BMS/2016/1),

Noting with satisfaction the achievements of the United Nations Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament through their constant support to Member States in raising awareness on the effects of illicit trade of SALWs, mainly, its implementation of the Secretary-General report on the United Nations study on disarmament and non-proliferation education (A/57/124),

1. *Urges* further regional collaboration on firearm regulation to combat and eradicate the illicit trade of SALWs;
2. *Recommends* the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (PoA) to initiate a discussion with all interested Member States to share best practices and troubles with the national reports to the PoA, as a side event to the Biennial PoA in 2023, to increase submission rates of national reports to the PoA;
3. *Proposes* that the General Assembly First Committee facilitate best practice sharing on stockpile management by convening a Third UN PoA Meeting of Governmental Experts to compile a comprehensive set of recommendations for more effective stockpile management, submitting these recommendations to the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs to review and distribute to Member States;
4. *Suggests* the PoA to establish and organize the biennially held Forum for Civilian Disarmament of Small Arms and Light Weapons (CDSALW) in cooperation with the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) in 2023 as a side event to the PoA with all interested Member States and UNODA, and is open to non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to:
 - a. Discuss best practices of disarmament on a national level focusing on the disarmament of civilians;
 - b. Publish a protocol of the CDSALW Forum via the PoA to secure the input and discussions on best practices and problems introduced no later than three weeks after the forum;
5. *Recommends* the Secretary-General engages in talks with regional and interregional organizations to explore the possibility of frameworks similar to the Joint United Nations – African Union Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security (2017) to enable closer cooperation as well as joint projects regarding, but not strictly limited to, the issue of illicit trade of small arms and light weapons, these projects should:
 - a. Primarily focus on preventing illicit transnational trade of SALWs by educating those living and working in affected border regions about the threats of this illicit trade;
 - b. Be coordinated by project-specific United Nations task forces determining the most beneficial involvement of United Nations bodies in each project;
 - c. Be funded equally by the United Nations bodies involved, as determined by the United Nations task forces and the regional partners;
6. *Further recommends* all willing and able regional bodies to modify existing United Nations and Member States partnerships with the UNODC's Education for Justice initiative to focus on the impact of SALWs within educational activities, such as classes to prevent crime and promote lawfulness in all levels of education, through:
 - a. Videos and posters to help increase the awareness of violence associated with SALWs;

- b. Courses that can be taken in school to help portray the consequences of SALWs to youths to increase consciousness, this can be possible with UNESCO's Illicit Trafficking Program;
7. *Encourages* Member States to accede to the Firearms Protocol and enhance the national capacities of least-developed countries to discourage the illicit trafficking and illicit manufacturing of SALWs;
8. *Recommends* Member States to participate in the CCP to share information on high-risk containers through communication platforms provided by the WCO in order to identify those containers and prevent cross border movements of illicit SALWs;
9. *Encourages* Member States to continue monitoring the exports of arms and weapons, and ensure that weapons do not breach the existing embargoes nor are put to use potentially causing abuses of human rights, terrorism, or other harmful phenomena, as suggested by the findings of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (2001);
10. *Suggests* Member States utilize the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) consultant organization the Acronym Institute for Disarmament Diplomacy, which has worked towards civilian information sharing in order to better understand the growing problem of illicit SALWs and how civilians can take action against illicit SALWs;
11. *Emphasizes* the importance of increasing cooperation between Member States and the United Nations Regional Center's for Peace and Disarmament by promoting awareness to affected communities on the negative effects of the illicit trade of SALWs have on regional development, in the form of:
 - a. Providing technical assistance to Member States in combating illicit trafficking of SALWs through coordinated technical training and capacity building programs;
 - b. Leveraging the expertise of the regional centers by providing advisory services to government authorities on disarmament measures based on regional strategies;
 - c. Engaging with youth groups and other regional organizations, such as the Association of South Eastern Asian Nations, the Pacific Islands Forum, and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, to discourage unrestricted use of SALWs through workshops, forums, and conferences.



Code: GA1/1/6

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade of Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, adopted in 1945, particularly Article 11 of Chapter IV, that provides the UN General Assembly with the power to consider the general principles of co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security, including the principles governing disarmament and the regulation of armaments,

Acknowledging that, as enshrined in Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the illicit trafficking of Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALWs) threatens the right to life and dignity of everyone, since it has resulted in 589,000 victims of armed violence globally in 2017, as stated in the Gender-Responsive Small Arms Control in the Decade of Action for the SDGs report (2020), Expressing its appreciation for the ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (2014) that regulates the international trade in conventional arms and requires all Member States to adopt basic policies on the matter,

Recalling the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (PoA), adopted in 2001, as a globally agreed framework for activities to counter the illicit trade in SALWs and control the negative consequences of SALWs,

Bearing in mind the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, Firearms Protocol, adopted by the General Assembly in 2001, which provides the framework for Member States who have ratified the protocol to prevent, investigate, and prosecute the offences stemming from the illicit trade of SALWs,

Recalling the General Assembly resolution 74/60 on "The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects" (2019), General Assembly resolution 74/51 on the "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them" (2019), and General Assembly resolution 74/66 on "Strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation treaties and agreements" (2019), which urge Member States to create and implement policies for regulating the illicit trade of SALWs,

Reaffirming to the General Assembly resolution 70/1 (2015) on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", particularly the Sustainable Development Goal 16, with its main target 16.4, to create effective institutions of accountability that will substantially reduce the magnitude of illicit arm flows while strengthening recovery,

Deeply Concerned by the Security Council resolutions including Security Council resolution 255 (2011), Security Council resolution 503 (2013), and Security Council resolution 1025 (2017) which documented the widespread of SALWs in Member States affected by civil wars such as Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen,

Noting with concern that as mentioned in UN SC briefing 9807 (2009), drug cartels throughout Latin America lead to an increase of illicit trade in SALWs and the deterioration of the political situation in the region,

Recognizing the efforts of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) established by the United Nations General Assembly in 2005 which aims at marking, record-keeping, and international cooperation and

assistance that will enable tracing illicit SALWs and *expresses concern* over the low participation rate and adherence of Member States to the ITI's provisions, which foster transparency and trust among Member States,

Applauds the wide array of measures supported by the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) established in 2019 by the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), specifically their commitment to capacity building including weapons marking, record-keeping and tracing;

Acknowledging the work of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), that is aimed at reviewing the policies of Member States and international organizations regarding the eradication of the illicit trade of SALWs,

Highlighting the iTrace project (2013) which aims to provide sufficient data on transfers of SALWs elaborated by the Conflict Armament Research (CAR), established in 2011, including ammunition, collected by CAR Teams in cooperation with UN agencies, such as the UNIDIR and UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS),

Concerned by the difficulty in keeping confiscated and deactivated weapons permanently removed from circulation, as stated by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in their report *Technical Guide to the Implementation of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms*,

Referring to the UNODC Global Firearms Programme (2016), which assists Member States in creating effective legislative infrastructure to respond to criminal activity related to the illicit trafficking of SALWs,

Acknowledging the UN Development Programme (UNDP) that operates in 170 countries, serving to aid development projects on regional and national levels as well as establishing initiatives to curb the proliferation of SALWs,

Recognizing the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) which works towards aiding countries in meeting the 17 Sustainable Development Goals,

Aware of the challenges for local law enforcement when they encounter illegally-traded small arms and light weapons, as well as preventing legally-imported weapons being resold illegally in neighboring markets, and thus the importance of establishing universal international standards as stated in the UNDP's *How to Guide Small Arms and Light Weapons Legislation*,

Appreciating the assistance provided by the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS), that helps Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), such as iTrace, at eradicating SALWs with the infrastructure, procurement, and project management services,

Takes note of the resources and expertise that is globally available through the use of the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) to investigate and track SALWs with INTERPOL Firearms Programme Policing Capabilities, the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System, and the INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network and Firearms Reference Table,

Considering the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS), elaborated by the INTERPOL, that helps to identify firearms trafficking patterns and smuggling routes,

Acknowledging the work of the UNODA Regional Disarmament Branches: UN Regional Centre for

Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), and The UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), which provide support, advisory and capacity-building services to regional Member States (MS) on the eradication of the illicit trade of SALWs,

Noting the role of the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in securing international trade and fighting illicit trade in all goods, including SALWs,

Underlining the importance of acting in post-conflict zones to combat illicit SALWs trafficking, as most such zones have large stockpiles of retired weapons that are not properly secured,

Profoundly concerned by the economic impact of the trade of SALWs, as the Small Arms Survey estimates the cost of armed violence in non-conflict zones to be at least 95 billion,

Being aware that in 2019, the Small Arms Survey, an expertise center on the illicit trading of SALWs, declared more than one billion firearms in global circulation, 85% of which were held by civilians,

Noting with concern the stark economic and physical disparities between Member States capabilities to obtain and operate the needed technologies to properly mark and trace SALWs,

Recognizing the protocols within the UNODA's *Handbook on Destruction of SALW, Ammunition and Explosive* (2001) that assist Member States in destroying ammunition and explosives related to SALWs,

1. *Suggests* the Seventh Biennial Meeting on PoA, scheduled to take place 26–30 July 2021, to enhance the ITI reporting system and transparency, by:
 - a. *Overviewing* the reports on conflict and post-conflict regions, elaborated by the iTrace program as well as other NGOs working in conjunction with the UN agencies such as UNIDIR, UNOPS;
 - b. *Sending* the approved reports to the ITI to include them in the reporting system;
2. *Strongly encourages* Member States participation in and adherence to all guidelines for SALWs reporting set by the ITI as well as adherence with the ATT's provision prohibiting arms transfer with states that would violate obligations under measures adopted by the UN SC under chapter VII of the Charter of the UN;
3. *Encourages* Member States to participate in the Seventh Biennial Meeting on PoA to strengthen the international community's capacity for arms tracing to build on the ITI framework by implementing import and export marking with important data such as serial number, caliber and country of manufacture in order to better manage and regulate both the legal and illicit export of SALWs;
4. *Encourages* local law enforcement in Member States to confiscate SALWs that have been traded illegally when they come across them, especially those affected by large migrations that could exacerbate the illegal trade and regions affected by armed conflicts;
5. *Suggests* Member States to emphasize greater border control as borders frequently serve as transit points for illegal arms trade, by:
 - a. *Encouraging* Member States to further track the movement of legal SALWs;

- b. Supporting the emphasis on border control as it can make the movement of illegal small arms easily identifiable;
 - c. Welcoming greater restriction within Member States on the transport of personally owned legal arms as this will ensure easy identification of illicit arms;
 - d. Further requesting Member States to declare illicitly trafficked SALWs to the ITI;
6. *Calls upon* Member States to draft and adhere to a legally binding, internationally standardized document outlining programs for safe disposal and recycling of confiscated and deactivated illicit weapons building on UNODA's *Handbook on Destruction of SALW, Ammunition and Explosive* (2001) in order to minimize the potential of weapons to re-enter circulation, by:
- a. Partnering with regional entities such as the European Union (EU), African Union (AU), Association of Caribbean States (ACS), and other formally recognized regional groups whose safety and security is impacted by the illicit trade of SALWs to ensure that destruction programs will operate multi-nationally under a legally binding document and alleviate sovereign inabilities to fund eradication and repurposing programs;
 - b. Acknowledging the need for funding for the destruction and recycling of SALW programs through the expansion of SALIENT, UNODC Global Firearms Programme, and regional actors to establish facilities for the safekeeping of weapons and equipment/processes necessary for destruction and repurposing especially in developing countries;
7. *Acknowledges* the need for funding through UNEP to establish effective methods of recycling and repurposing plastics and metals taken from confiscated SALWs in order to achieve SDG 12, by:
- a. Selling such metals and plastics to private businesses to have an income that could be invested in the programs for destruction and recycling of a SALW;
 - b. Suggesting to MS that the repurposing of metal will also serve to aid in regional and national development projects and infrastructural needs as determined by UNDP and regional MS from which weapons have been confiscated;
8. *Reiterates* the need to address the remaining considerable differences of capabilities available to Least Developed and Developing Member States in the implementation of adequate marking and tracing of SALW as well as the combat against organized crime, by:
- a. Suggesting that financial assistance and basic equipment for marking and tracing as well as resources such as steel weapon boxes be made available to all developing Member States, through the existing SALIENT fund;
 - b. Advocating for a fraction of the budget of the General Assembly to be dedicated to the SALIENT fund in order to aid developing and least developed countries on the disarmament;
 - c. Acknowledging the voluntary nature of SALIENT, however urging developed Member States to increase their funding efforts to support this initiative;

- d. Requesting Member States to provide direct bilateral contributions in order to improve on regional and national financial and technological initiatives to anticipate and reduce the illicit trade in SALWs in developing countries and least developed countries;
 - e. Strengthening the Regional Disarmament Branches of the UNODA, namely UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC, in order to develop capacity building programs that would allow them to manage the marking and tracing equipment;
 - f. Petitioning the UNODA to establish a Regional Disarmament Branch for the Middle East to attend to their difficulties in terms of capabilities as well as unique challenges pertaining to the armed conflict situations in order for the branch to aid on the capacity building, consultation for legislation, as well as developing practices and guidelines;
9. *Calls for* Member States to share resources and expertise with other states within their global region through usage of the UNIDIR's informational published reports on an annual basis, as a majority of trafficking of SALWs is done internally within regions;
10. *Calls for* Member States to share information resources for competent investigations and systems of tracking SALWs within the ITI and PoA along with the assistance of the UNODA, the UNODC, and INTERPOL by:
- a. Considering the INTERPOL Firearms Programme Policing Capabilities to assist local law enforcement in intercepting illicit trafficking in weapons and materials that perpetuate terrorist activities as a sufficient source for application by Member States;
 - b. Including the iARMS database to track illicit arms that have been reported lost, stolen, trafficked, or smuggled into the reports of the ITI;
 - c. Supporting Member States' usage of the INTERPOL Ballistic Information Network and Firearms Reference Table to identify arms and compare images of ballistics to connect crimes;
 - d. Encouraging cooperation between UNODA and these groups to promote simultaneous law enforcement defined by intelligence;
11. *Supports* the establishment of a Partnership Program, open voluntarily to all Member States, in alliance with INTERPOL, in order for them to supervise and eradicate international illicit trade of SALW by:
- a. Providing the States' law enforcement and the INTERPOL with Artificial Technology (AI) and image recognition technology that automatically recognizes, traces the IP and removes any information uploaded both on the web regarding the black market of SALWs and SALWs 3D printing blueprints:
 - i. Such technology could be financed with the AI Fund and Alpha Intelligence Capital;

- b. Strengthening cooperation between INTERPOL and the police forces of Member States to locate, investigate and pursue the private networks that exist on the Dark Web to tackle their SALW listings;
12. *Encourages* the creation of voluntary training programs for States' national maritime security forces through partnerships with INTERPOL and the IMO, to be overseen by the UNODA through the Regional Development Branches where relevant, to be conducted with the individual coastal security forces of each nation, in order to combat the marine aspect of SALWs smuggling, by:
- a. Sharing best practices to create an identity system, enabling police to differentiate between authorized and unauthorized vessels;
 - b. Developing case-specific guidelines for strengthening coastal security measures and systems;
 - c. Maximizing the efficiency of small coastal security forces;
 - d. Reinforcing training programs for national police forces that strengthen awareness of current international and national frameworks and guidelines in regard to SALWs;
13. *Suggests* addressing the root causes of the illicit trade SALWs, such as tackling the various drug cartels throughout Latin America or stopping political issues that cause violent riots from evolving into armed conflicts, by:
- a. Stopping corruption at all levels amongst law enforcement officials by supervising that they follow the international guidelines regarding the transparency of the authorities, as well as the training and the equipment needed to adequately track and confiscate any illegal SALW to ensure that there is a competent agency that is not be affected by corruption;
 - b. Battling drug cartels through a partnership between the UNODC and the police of Member States, specially focusing on criminal organizations in Latin America such as the National Liberation Army (ELN), First Capital Command (PCC), and Sinaloa Cartel that primarily use SALWs to carry out their illicit operations;
 - c. Creating stricter admission requirements that require the completion of a rigorous training program based on standards agreed upon by all members of General Assembly One in order to promote multilateral operations that can help stop the spread of SALWs.



Code: GA1/1/7

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Recognizing the 2019 report of the Secretary-General on small arms and light weapons (S/2019/1011), highlighting the lack of public-private collaboration amongst governmental and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as Gender Lens for Arms Control Support and Sustainability (GLASS), seeking the mitigation of gender-based violence (GBV) caused by the flow of illicit small arms and light weapons (SALWs) due to the lack of collaborative international action on this front,

Reaffirming the need to promote the Modular Small-arms Control Implementation Compendium (MOSAIC), established by the *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects (PoA)* (2001), in order to reduce the global illicit arms flow,

Recalling the important role that women and youth play in building peace, alongside with global ethics standards that have been established by the United Nations and all Member States, emphasized by SDG 16 to promote peace, justice, and strong institutions,

Acknowledging the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) mentioning indicator 16.4 to significantly reduce illicit arms flows by 2030 and strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets and combat all forms of organized crime,

Emphasizing the lack of accountability, transparency, and trust among the global community regarding information sharing of GBV in conflict-prone regions as noted in the European Union (EU) *Strategy to Combat Illicit Accumulation and Trafficking of SALWs and their Ammunition* (2006), which has been exacerbated by the lack of widespread usage of the International Tracing Instrument (ITI),

Recognizing that in the last four decades, the participation of women in disarmament diplomacy has grown by 20% according to the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research's (UNIDR) report *Still Behind the Curve: Gender Balance in Arms Control, Non-proliferation, and Disarmament Diplomacy* (2019),

Deeply disturbed by the fact that according to the 2020 Small Arms Survey on *Violence, Women, and Guns*, an estimated 66,000 homicides occur against women annually of which 40% involve a SALW,

Affirming the work of the second *European Union Arms Trade Treaty Outreach Project* (EU ATT-OP II) to promote the universal adoption of the *Arms Trade Treaty* (2013),

Recognizing the contributions of the PoA, the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women* (1993), and efforts of Member States in the past Sixth Biennial Meeting of States on the

Programme of Action to address the impact of SALWs on women, including advocating for programs that empower women to participate in the prevention of illicit transfer of SALWs,

Recalling the Office for Disarmament Affairs' (UNODA) emphasis on stockpile management and destruction in their 2018 report *Securing Our Common Future: An Agenda for Disarmament*, particularly in regard to development efforts and sensitive humanitarian contexts,

Recognizing the particular challenges faced in relation to GBV security infrastructure available for developing states in addressing the trade of SALWs, as highlighted in General Assembly resolution 63/23 on "Promoting Development Through the Reduction and Prevention of Armed Violence",
Acknowledging the need for a more multinational coordinated response by Member States on the urgent issue of GBV,

Considering that violent acts of intolerance against various religious communities such as Jews, Muslims, Christians, and other members of religious communities are still problematic among Member States, as demonstrated by the International Day Commemorating The Victims of Acts of Violence Based on Religion or Belief,

Recognizing Security Council resolution 2250 (2015) on "Youth, Peace and Security" mentioning that the youth have an important potential of breaking the cycle of violence inside their community, which essential to the realization of the SDGs,

Further highlights that Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) programs will take into consideration the varied roles women and girls played among fighting forces, and thus adequately provide for their specific DDR-related concerns and rights, such as with the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL),

Affirming the definition of GBV established by the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), as stated in the *Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women* (1993),

Recalling Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, Peace and Security", which emphasizes the need to fully implement international humanitarian and human rights laws that protect the right of women and girls during and after conflict,

Emphasizes that two out of the 40 actions in the *Agenda for disarmament: Securing our common future* (2018) are devoted to "ensuring equal, full and effective participation of women",

Noting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its establishment of SDGs established by General Assembly resolution 70/1 on "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", namely SDG 5 and the manner in which global gender inequality contributes to young girls lacking access to education, healthcare, economic opportunity, and social independence, contributing to their vulnerability as a group,

Considering SDG 16 and the creation of support systems for justice and social management under lawfulness, as well as the creation of regional solutions such as the United Kingdom's program Equally Safe and the African Union's Silencing the Guns Initiative, to address the relationship between illicit SALWs and regional peace,

Stressing the national sovereignty of Member States and their ability to self-determine the solutions presented within the resolution,

Emphasizing the humanitarian causes and effects of violence, especially GBV, as addressed by the Joint Global Programme on Essential Services for Women and Girls Subject to Violence, as well as their indivisible nature,

Recalling the objectives listed in Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on "Women, peace and security", highlighting the importance of women's roles in rebuilding conflict-ridden states and focusing on the disproportionate detriments of conflict on women and girls,

Noting the particular needs of landlocked developing states, and the framework the *Vienna Programme of Action* (2014-2024) has put in place to address this specific issue met by local and rural communities in these States,

1. *Recommends* Member States increase collaboration with NGOs and projects such as the Gender Lens for Arms Control Support and Sustainability (GLASS), which developed a practical guide to gender-responsive small arms control to promote evidence-based public and private initiatives to aid in the mitigation of gender-based violence;
2. *Calls upon* Member States to engage in and promote wider usage of the MOSAIC guidelines by implementing its best practice recommendations and sub-regional operating procedures to further develop their national frameworks to create more definitive safeguards against the disproportionately gendered misuse of SALWs;
3. *Strongly encourages* all Member States to accurately submit annual reports to the Small Arms Survey and highlights the information sharing and record keeping aspects of the ITI to generate reliable and accurate information regarding the misuse and distribution of illicit SALWs, as well as generating confidence amongst the global community;
4. *Strongly recommends* UNODA partners with the Parliamentarians for Global Action's (PGA) Engaging Women Parliamentarians in Addressing the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in Central America, the Caribbean, and South Asia to formulate Member State specific, gender mainstream legislation on SALWs through the inclusion of women parliamentarians;
5. *Endorses* Sierra Leone's Action Network on Small Arms' (SLANSA) program Promoting Women's Security - The Way to Peace, a prominent gender-based, West African network, as a model for regional economic and political bodies, providing dialogues between communities and governmental figures, as well as hosting training and education sessions for women and youth on promoting women's rights, security, and democratic values;
6. *Recommends* the ATT Working Group on Treaty Universalization produce guidelines that would establish an international capacity-building program for ATT implementation based on the EU ATT-OP II to ensure all Member States have the capacity to become parties to the ATT and have the capacity to implement the legally binding provision in Article 7 that pertains to GBV;

7. *Encourages* the upcoming United Nations PoA Seventh Biennial Meeting of States, which will take place from July 26th to 30th, 2021, to:
 - a. Establish best practices for incorporating the participation of women in the PoA processes, such as promoting women in disarmament decision-making roles;
 - b. Establish best practices to prevent and mitigate the GBV facilitated by SALWs within Member States, such as empowerment of women surrounding weapons, reducing weapons most used for gender-based violence, and gender-mainstreaming of SALWs;
 - c. Encourage Member States to commit to regular monitoring by the ATT monitor of intercepted weapons stockpiles, information sharing, and international operational assistance between states to manage and destroy SALW stockpiles in order to decrease their circulation among civilian populations;
 - d. Emphasize the need to combat GBV in ways such as, but not limited to:
 - i. Institute equitable advancement for the participation of women in decision making relating to the PoA and ITI;
 - ii. Strengthen civil society engagement on promoting inclusive gender perspectives on the issue of gender-based violence in regional initiatives;
 - iii. Encourage new partnerships with local women led NGO's in creating alternative frameworks in preventing local, gendered violence as a result of SALWs;
8. *Recommend* that the United Nations PoA creates a unified system of shared resources and trainings through the research and discussion from groups of governmental experts (GGEs), information sharing, and be more easily accessible to Member States for them to utilize;
9. *Encourages for* an increase in global investments towards educational and housing infrastructure through the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF), and in accordance with the *Vienna Programme of Action (2014-2024)*, in order to provide local and rural communities with various new economic opportunities that will help reduce the SALW trade, particularly in developing states;
10. *Suggests* funding from the United Nations regular budget and additional funding from NGOs, such as the Crime Prevention Action Fund and the United Nations Trust Fund to End Violence Against Women;
11. *Recommends* Member States to continue discussions on establishing gender mainstream policy in the context of disarmament and non-proliferation using the ideas and recommendations made during the 2021 Commission on the Status of Women;
12. *Encourages* Member States to support the empowerment of women in regards SALWs, through:
 - a. Taking initiatives to be inclusive of women at the international level, through;

- i. Encourage the participation of such issues in the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) in the committee;
 - ii. Compiling and publishing of gender-disaggregated data attendance at disarmament-related conferences;
 - iii. Implementing capacity building support projects by UNODA and regional centers to encourage meaningful participation by women;
 - iv. Disseminating of information on gender and disarmament by UNIDIR;
 - b. Encourages regional cooperation in the realm of inclusive education similar to the United Nations cooperation with the African Union, Silencing the Guns Initiative, especially along border regions on the implications and dangers of illicit trade of SALWs with a rotating educational system, in order to:
 - i. Provide support especially to women to engage in regional talks on topics;
 - ii. Integrate and grant women access into the labor force to promote equal opportunities and lowering the pay gap for women;
 - iii. Rotate in border regions every three months for at least two years;
 - iv. Encourage Member States to implement policies akin to the United Kingdom's Equally Safe and Right to be Safe programs, which empowers women and girls through education on SALWs;
- 13. *Requests* that the lack of infrastructure for youth-focused peacebuilding programs be addressed by the General Assembly First Committee, through:
 - a. Encouraging United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to reinforce their programs of education in collaboration with Member States that are deployed in developing states, who lack resources to educate the youth towards peace building processes;
 - b. Supporting Member States facing issues with the proliferation of SALWs reinforcing their support for local projects that work towards creating a culture of peace within the youth;
 - c. Encouraging upon Member States to implement international education programs, supported with funds from the Educational Fund to Stop Gun Violence, the National Education Association, and the Family Violence Prevention Fund focusing on the impact of SALWs and their effects on gender-based violence, focusing especially on:
 - i. The need to address the mental, physical, and emotional impact of GBV on women and girls, including coping mechanisms for such harm;
 - ii. The training of social workers, health associates, educators, and law enforcement of Member States within the at risk and vulnerable population;

- iii. Member States annually self-report procedures and results of GBV educational programs and the correlating GBV statistics in Member States' populations to find the most successful programs;

14. *Calls upon* Member States to further integrate the methods proposed in the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration (DDR) initiative, through:

- a. Including mediation support, analysis, and capacity building by working with non-governmental organizations, such as the Interagency Gender Working Group and partnering with United Nations operations, such as the United Nations Special Political Missions, the United Nations Non-Special Political Missions, and the United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism;
- b. Recognizing with satisfaction the Disarmament, Demobilization, and Reintegration programs that provides children and adolescents with immediate care in interim care centers (ICCs), which includes access to food, clothing, shelter, water, medical care, recreation, and counseling needs, as well as the DDR efforts to trace and preparation of family members that let to reunification and the return of their children who had previously been combatants;

15. *Calls upon* Member States who are involved in weapon-selling commerce with other Member States being in regional or national armed conflicts to invest more efforts in helping refugees who are victims of these conflicts;

16. *Recommends* voluntary contributions from Member States for refugee camps as a safe haven for victims of SALWs violence, specifically in high conflict zones.



Code: GA1/1/8

Committee: *General Assembly First Committee*

Topic: *The Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects*

The General Assembly First Committee,

Recalling General assembly resolution 74/60 on “The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects”, resolution 74/51 on the “Assistance to States for curbing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons and collecting them”, and resolution 74/66 on “Strengthening and developing the system of arms control, disarmament, and non-proliferation treaties and agreements”,

Recognizing the importance of the full implementation of the *United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (PoA)* (2001), and the 2005 *International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons (ITI)* (2005) to counter the illicit trade of small arms and light weapons (SALWs),

Recalling the *Report of the Third UN Conference to Review Progress Made in the Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALWs in All Its Aspects* (2018), which required Member States to cooperate, engage in the exchange of information, and the provision of technical and financial assistance to implement the PoA and the ITI in its complete measures,

Recognizing that the illicit trade of arms is an issue that transcends borders, as identified in the 2016 *A Guide to the UN Small Arms Process* introduced by the Small Arms Survey and that as such a decision on the topic at hand must incorporate international cooperation to help locate and regulate the legal sale and trade of arms in order to make borders more secure,

Appreciating the Saving Lives Entity (SALIENT) created in 2019 by the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) and the United Nations Development Programme, as a funding mechanism for developing states and/or other targeted states in need of resources, in order to support the development of a Member State’s capacities to create durable small arms and light weapons control measures,

Noting with concern the negative impact of the illicit trade of SALWs on the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1, 3, 5, 11 and 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by resolution 70/1 of the General Assembly on “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”,

Praising the women, peace and security agenda, which aims to incorporate women in security, as outlined in United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on “Women, peace and security” and its role in promoting women’s participation in ensuring international peace and security,

Underlining the *Report of the UN Conference on the Illicit Trade in SALWs in All Its Aspects* (2001) that stresses the necessity of taking regional actions including establishing networks for information sharing and cooperation on the illicit trade of SALWs in all its aspects,

Recognizing the work in addressing SALWs disarmament by the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC), the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD), and the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC) established in 1986 by resolution 40/151/G of the General assembly in the field of disarmament and peace,

Acknowledging the urgent necessity to prevent and eliminate criminal access to SALWs and the damage caused by such activity,

Being aware of the importance of information sharing and cooperation to help implement the PoA and the ITI among regional Member States through training programs provided by the UNODC, where experts from the United Nations and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) exchange practical knowledge on preventing illicit trade of SALWs,

Emphasizing the importance to limit the diversion of SALWs to terrorist organizations as defined by Security Council resolution 1566 (2004) on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”,

Reaffirming the importance of ensuring that each Member State's national sovereignty must be respected at all times and that each individual Member State has the freedom to implement these policies in a way that aligns with their national agenda as provided by Article 2 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945),

1. *Recommends* the regional and intergovernmental organizations that recognize trade regulations of the European Union, the African Union, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Organization of American states, the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation, the African Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, Turkic Council, Central Asian Union, and bilateral partnerships for creating a voluntary database of registry that is utilized to monitor if weapons in the general public are legally obtained or are not in the possession of their registered owner, by:
 - a. Placing an emphasis on a voluntarily based database within the United Nations Statistics Division in conjunction with UNODA, that is only available to specific stakeholders of Member States and should focus beyond a national level in recognition that the illicit arms trade is an issue that transcends borders and should assign a serial code to each manufactured weapon designed for private use;
 - b. Establishing specific codes or serial numbers assigned to specific weapons and their location of manufacturing in order for authorities to specifically track the weapon's location in the case that smuggled weapons are found beyond the weapon's specified borders to assist in transnational cooperation of authorities;
 - c. Disclosing the use of these codes only to legal manufacturers of weapons sold issued to private manufacturers to assist in identifying if a weapon was illegally created;
2. *Encourages* UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC to take a greater role in the prevention of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects by establishing a summit on the impact of SALWs in March 2022 which would include local governments, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and regional organizations, in order to:
 - a. Enable the sharing of intelligence, information, and practices relating to the topic at hand;
 - b. Provide a forum for Member States to develop regional frameworks to address the trafficking of SALWs due to its transnationality;
 - c. Address the specific needs, especially that of developing and least developed Member States;

- d. Provide an understanding of the regional challenges faced in the prevention of the illicit trade of SALWs in the form of a joint presentation of interested Member States;
3. *Recommends* the establishment of an open-ended working group to oversee the progress made on the policies and efforts to combat the illicit trade of SALWs, which would:
 - a. Be a subsidiary organ of the United Nations General Assembly;
 - b. Discuss if new measures need to be implemented or if current efforts need to be amended to maintain their effectiveness;
 - c. Entertain annual meetings in order to create an open forum discussion that allows General Assembly Member States over this resolution's policy agenda to express, voice concerns over the policy agenda, and track the implementation of measures taken by this committee:
 - i. Analyze specific categories of the illicit arms trade as specified by the 2016 Small Arms Guide including but not limited to firearms, portable weapons, illegal tampering of legally purchased arms to measure progress;
 - ii. If one subset persists more frequently in illicit trades to place an international emphasis on the source of the issue;
 - d. Request the Secretary-General to provide, within available resources, the establishment of the working group and provide this assembly the reports of said working group;
 - e. The working group presents their findings in the form of a report to the General Assembly First Committee annually at the plenary meeting;
4. *Urges* Member States to provide funding to the specific SALIENT that pertains to the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, which supports and promotes national capacity building pertaining to the creation of durable arms control measures, effective management of borders and SALW stockpiles;
5. *Recommends* to expand the scope of SALIENT, as to encourage further development on:
 - a. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDGs 1, 3, 5, 11, and 16 to ensure that SALIENT contributes to the long-term sustainable development of targeted states;
 - b. The capacity of a Member State in marking, tracing, and record-keeping of the SALWs within its borders;
 - c. Training and education of a state's law enforcement in approach and methods to intercepting SALW-related trades;
6. *Furthermore suggests* to expand the scope of SALIENT to ensure funding to all developing states and least developed states unable to address the issue of the illicit trade of SALWs;
7. *Recommends* the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research to develop an educational campaign with the intention of understanding the dangers of SALW's before the first quarter of 2023 by providing education material in form of flyers and curriculum to Member States;

8. *Encourages* Member States to participate in regional meeting and workshops facilitated by UNODC and UNODA on the effective implementation of international instruments including the PoA and the ITI to mitigate legal gaps in reports through financial and technological assistance and the exchange information and best practices combating the illicit trade of SALWs amongst Member States;
9. *Encourages* the establishment of regional cooperation centers on the issue of the illicit trade of SALWs within UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC, in order to:
 - a. Create another resource and consulting center which would be supervised by UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC, in order to facilitate cross-border management;
 - b. Provide Member States with an additional platform, seeing that it has currently not been put in place, to exchange expertise and resources to address particular issues to address management of SALWs;
 - c. Maintain cooperation at national and international levels as UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC would be supplemented by regional cooperation centers;
 - d. Equally distribute work to UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC by only incorporating the regional cooperation centers that are part of the region defined under the supervision of the respective United Nations Regional Centre;
 - e. Base this working method in on an individual analysis, as well as monthly reports from regional cooperation centers to the United Nations Regional Centres;
10. *Requests* Member States to improve the ability of law enforcement in order to examine firearms and ammunition and combat violent crimes associated with illicit firearms trafficking through trainings and assessments, which would be facilitated by the regional offices of UNODC and UNODA.