



Documentation of the work of the
General Assembly First Committee (GA1) NMUN simulation*



Radical empathy,
—
Peace reimagined

NMUN•NY 2023
Conference B
10 – 14 April 2023

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General Assembly First Committee (GA1)

Committee Staff

Director	Vikram Sakkia
Assistant Director	Filippo Maria Margheritini
Chair	Kelsey Shabanowitz

Agenda

1. Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors
2. Youth for Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Peace

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote (For-Against-Abstain)
GA1/1/1	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	63-10-19
GA1/1/2	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	40-20-32
GA1/1/3	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	64-8-20
GA1/1/4	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	60-8-24
GA1/1/5	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	66-8-18
GA1/1/6	Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors	59-9-24

Summary Report

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

- I. Youth for Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Peace
- II. Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The session was attended by representatives of 91 Member States and 1 Observer.

On Monday, the committee adopted an agenda order of topic II followed by topic I, beginning discussion on the topic of "Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors." By Tuesday, the Dais received a total of 12 proposals covering a wide range of sub-topics including information sharing, buyback programs, accountability, border control, technology, tracing, education and research, cooperation, record keeping, and maintenance of the Container Control Programme. The atmosphere of the committee was cooperative with high levels of negotiation. Gradually, ideas came together and by the end of the sixth session a number of working papers with similar ideas and themes had combined.

On Sunday, six draft resolutions had been approved by the dais, with a total of four friendly amendments. The committee adopted all six draft resolutions following voting procedure. The committee then moved on to the next topic of "Youth for Disarmament, Non-Proliferation, and Peace." After brief statements from several delegates, the committee was adjourned.



Code: GA1/1/1

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Reaffirming its commitment to the implementation and strengthening of international frameworks and initiatives preventing the illicit arms trade such as the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948)*, the *Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (PoA)*, the *International Tracing Instrument (ITI)*, the *Firearms Protocol*, the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR), and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL),

Bearing in mind the Sustainable Development Goal (SDGs), specifically SDG 16 (peace, justice, and strong institutions), SDG 3 (good health and well being), SDG 4 (quality education), SDG 10 (reduced inequalities), and SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals),

Deeply disturbed by the network of the global unauthorized trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW) and its ammunition reaching over US \$7 billion as per United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA),

Recognizing the illicit trade of weapons as a source of human suffering due to the use of these weapons for attacks on civilians or infrastructure as highlighted in Security Council press release 14656 titled “Rapid Spread of Small Arms, Light Weapons Still Threatening World Peace, Exacerbating Plight of Civilians in Conflict Zones, Disarmament Chief Tells Security Council” (2021),

Considering the growing threats posed by illicit arms trafficking by non-state actors and the need for coordinated efforts to prevent, detect, and combat this phenomenon, and acknowledging the important role that international organizations can play in facilitating such efforts,

Deeply concerned by terrorist groups illegally acquiring weapons, aiming to threaten national and international security, stability of infrastructure, and the lives of civilians,

Appreciating the cooperation of Member States in sharing ideas, information, and positive dialogue in addressing the illicit supply of weapons across borders to non-state actors,

Having considered the need for transparency and security in monitoring arms and trade while continuing efforts to work with the Security Council and work within the *Arms Trade Treaty (ATT)* by following the guidelines in General Assembly resolution 60/48 on “Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace” (2005),

Highlighting the report on *The Illicit Market in Firearms* established by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, which found that that 80% of illicit arms found in Mexico were manufactured in North America, along with other notable examples of the regional nature of this issue,

Reaffirming Human Rights Council report 2018/40 (2018) and General Assembly resolution 77/268 on “Use of mercenaries as a means of violating human rights and impeding the exercise of the right of peoples to self-determination” (2022), emphasizing the need for the recognition of private military companies (PMC) and hired mercenaries as a considerable threat to human rights and the further proliferation of the illicit arms trade,

Keeping in mind that Human Rights Council resolution 2005/2 on “The Use of Mercenaries as a Means of Violating Human Rights and Impeding the Exercise of the Right of Peoples to Self-determination” (2005) set the goal for their working group to oversee PMC’s and hired mercenaries’ effects on the enjoyment of human rights,

Taking into account General Assembly resolution 77/268 on “Education for democracy” (2022), which notes that PMCs have been hired in the past to smuggle arms to support a state’s self-interest such as in the case of using PMCs to circumvent the arms embargo as outlined in the Security Council’s resolution 1970 on “Peace and security in Africa” (2011),

Emphasizing Article 51 of the *Charter of the United Nations*, outlining the legitimate right of every Member State to manufacture, import, and retain SALW to self-defend and fulfill their security needs,

Stressing that the most significant challenges within the PoA include the lack of reporting, overlaps in reporting requirements, and lack of capacity according to a 2020 report by the UNODA,

Aware that the illicit supply of SALW transfers prolong and intensify conflict in regions and contribute to spillover conflicts in surrounding regions, making border management paramount,

Reiterating the need for joint and effective measures on all international, national, and regional levels to prevent and combat the trade of weapons, as per General Assembly resolution 60/68 on “Addressing the negative humanitarian and development impact of the illicit manufacture, transfer and circulation of small arms and light weapons and their excessive accumulation” (2006),

Recognizing with satisfaction the precedence set forth by Security Council resolutions 2117 on “Small arms and light weapons” (2013) and 2220 on “Small arms” (2015) that created international frameworks to share information and showcase transparency of non-State actors and their acquisition of SALW,

Commends the accountability of Member States in disclosing quantities of distribution, intended buyers, and destinations of SALW supply,

Cognizant that as of August 2022, the ATT has not been ratified by all Member States,

Taking into consideration three pivotal ATT articles, namely Article 6 referring to the stipulation of conditions for Member States “prohibited to transfer arms,” Article 7 referring to Member State conditions for undertaking “export assessment” for transfers not prohibited under Article 6, and Article 20 governing the amendment procedure of the treaty for Member State propositions after 6 years into their enforcement of the treaty,

Recognizing the success of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat in publishing an ATT blueprint legislation in an effort to support the Pacific states in their ambitions to ratify and implement the Pacific Islands region ATT framework,

Welcoming partnerships with non-governmental organizations (NGOs), such as the International Action Network on Small Arms and Control Arms, that aim to support post-conflict regions who suffer humanitarian and infrastructural crises,

Underlining the significant correlation between the use of firearms and femicides worldwide, as highlighted in the *Women, Weapons, and War* report by the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, such that one-third of reported femicides worldwide involved the use of weapons,

Dismayed by the fact that the majority of illicit weapons supplies originate from diverted legal weapons, as reported by the International Centre for Counterterrorism (ICCT), disallowing for weapons and ammunition worldwide from having a unique serial number,

Stressing the importance of the *Modular Small-Arms-control Implementation Compendium* (MOSAIC) in ensuring international monitoring of weapons stockpiles, with particular emphasis on aging and obsolete weapons,

Acknowledging the important role of youth and their positive impact on peacebuilding in the world, especially in addressing the illicit supply of weapons,

Noting the lack of an organized educational framework within universities that raises awareness about the stakeholders and interactions involved in illicit arms trades,

Highlighting the successful efforts of the United Nations Transitional Authority in Cambodia (UNTAC), 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), United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), and the United Nations Department of Peace Operations,

Taking into account that, according to a study commissioned by Economic and Social Research Council and conducted by RAND Europe, the dark web has the potential to become the platform of choice for individuals and small groups to obtain firearms, ammunition and arms-related digital products such as information needed to independently manufacture firearms,

1. *Recommends* updated procedures within the United Nations system to improve arms detection and strengthen multilateral partnerships, continuing the actions outlined in General Assembly resolution 60/48 (2023), on education and participation through existing frameworks to keep weapons out of non-state actors hands, utilization of education to combat illicit arms trade, and through all states participating in multilateral partnerships;
2. *Invites* all Member States to submit reports of legal arms trades to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms in order to further advance transparency in the international trade of weapons;
3. *Urges* communication and education between transport companies utilizing the Strategic Communications Department of the United Nations to facilitate the detection of and report suspicious transactions of illicit supplies to non-state actors;
4. *Strongly advises* Member States to create outreach programs that inform on the illicit trade of weapons by utilizing pre-existing United Nations bodies such as UNIDIR for research and development, seminars, university courses, research programs, and to inform companies of their ethical and moral responsibilities;
5. *Welcomes* Member States to promote and work with international NGOs, UNODA, local committees, and other Member States that foster education for civilians and youth concerning the destructive effects of the illicit trade of weapons by:
 - a. Encouraging governmental entities to create educational programs in cooperation with various NGOs and local committee that outlines the illicit trade of SALWs and observes regional terrorist activity in order to promote awareness among civilians and can be incorporated into school and university curricula;
 - b. Promoting national and regional outreach to allow Member States to engage in transnational cooperation approaching public and private education initiatives;
 - c. Collaborating with UNITAR in order to provide training sessions and workshops;

6. *Calls for* further research by United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), the Commission on the Status of Women, and other independent women-focused organizations into the impact on women by the illicit trade of weapons through armed conflicts, civilian-targeted attacks, and femicides, to further highlight and quantify the severity of the issue;
7. *Further recommends* that UN Women and other women-focused organizations enhance and facilitate the participation of women in policymaking, particularly in the realm of illicit weapons trade and the misuse of SALW, by encouraging them to:
 - a. Improve access for women in general education and further studies in law, policymaking, diplomacy, and international relations;
 - b. Promote private sector and public sector careers that enable women to spearhead conversations on the issue;
 - c. Call upon local women-empowerment organizations to train and enable more women to be involved in the respective policy discussions;
8. *Suggests* that the United Nations Disarmament Commission improve upon existing weapons tracing strategies by:
 - a. Encouraging the Security and Technology Programme to organize seminars to inform Member States of technological updates on the topics of weapon-marking, record-keeping, and stockpile management;
 - b. Promoting increased sustainability on arms regulation through the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulations;
 - c. Requesting the ITI begin collecting information on the weapons stockpiles of Member States, for the purpose of monitoring the flow in and out of weapons to better observe the illicit arms trade;
9. *Requests* the United Nations to adopt a global standard for formatting a serial number which must include the International Standards Organization's two letter country codes, an alphabetical identifier of a manufacturing corporation, and an eight-digit identifier in order to allow for further ease of tracking due to a unified international standard, rather than disparate national standards;
10. *Advises* for the strengthening and readaptation of the ITI to establish regional tracking systems, modeled after the South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, that show the origin and destination of arms, and can be accessed by Member States, legal arms exporters, and assists willing Member or Associate States with their firearm and ammunition registrations;
11. *Strongly encourages* the application and advancement of the INTERPOL database within border security agencies for developing states through the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System;
12. *Takes note of the* inability of some Member States to adopt the ITI due to their lack of legal or technical framework and suggests:

- a. The implementation of transitional and rehabilitation government programs such as UNTAC in post conflict Member States to adopt a legal framework that will be beneficial in writing laws regarding marking and tracing;
 - b. The United Nations Regional Centres for Peace and Disarmament, UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC host workshops building capacity and training technical personnel to adequately identify and trace weapons;
 - c. That Member States answer calls for international contributions to trust funds to voluntarily allocate funding towards impacted areas;
13. *Requests* the UNIDIR's Security and Technology Programme to consider the allocation of funds to:
- a. Collaborate with national security agencies to provide further training in identifying actors operating on the dark web with no government oversight and countering their illegal operations, as they pertain to the trade of illicit arms;
 - b. Research how Member States can increase their understanding of the role cryptocurrencies play in the illicit arms trade;
 - c. Further the modernization of arms trade education, including increasing awareness of independently 3D printed weapons and future-focused preemptive technologies;
14. *Further suggests* that Member States that have not yet done so consider fully, partially, or conditionally ratifying, accepting, approving, or acceding to the ATT and the ITI in accordance with their respective constitutional processes, in order to achieve its universalization, with the assistance of the:
- a. Universalization outreach programs of States parties of the ATT to regions with minimal support of the treaty;
 - b. Working Group on Treaty Universalization for arranging for a summit together with non-member states on the main concerns about treaty signature and ratification;
15. *Further encourages* the Conference on Disarmament to make "Amending the Arms Trade Treaty" an agenda item and suggest States parties to the ATT to:
- a. Incentivize increased ratification of the ATT by sharing national legislation blueprints in regional blocs such as Association of Southeast Asian Nations, South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation, and Gulf Cooperation Council to increase momentum and conversation around amending the ATT (as done by the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat);
 - b. Negotiate between states parties who are major arms exporters and states who are not parties to the ATT who are dependent on arms imports, who may have their bilateral relationship impacted contingent on ratification of the ATT, in order to discourage unilateral restriction of trade of arms by major exporters due to distrust of importer state regulation standards, and after Member States previously not party to the ATT, sign onto it, then:
 - i. Encourage states parties to the ATT to utilize Article 20 to amend Articles 6 and 7 of the ATT to have a group forum elected by State parties of the ATT to

issue advisory opinions to interpret the language of the ATT to discourage bending of ambiguous implications of the language by State parties for their unilateral benefit;

- ii. Promote the use of the ATT Voluntary Trust Fund by previous ratifiers of the ATT to provide technical support to future ratifier Member States;

16. *Supports* the advancement of transparency and honesty regarding arms circulation by:

- a. Encouraging the Conference of States Parties to the ATT to include State Members not party to the treaty to join discussion and address concerns;
- b. Calling on Member States who are party to the ATT to remain consistent in submitting reports of new measures for its national implementation as per Article 13.1;
- c. Welcoming all Member States to continue the honest and transparent nature of their arms trades reports to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms;

17. *Further supports* the expansion of MOSAIC to promote additional policy recommendations that repurpose obsolete weapon stockpiles by deconstruction them into material components and resources rather than stockpile destruction;

18. *Looks favorably upon* the creation of a United Nations-sanctioned data visualization program based on newer and reinforced tracking systems, managed by the Department of Global Communications, that:

- a. Visually represents estimate deaths in local areas caused by illicitly sourced weapons;
- b. Details the actions of the local government and other involved administrations in addressing the issue;
- c. Provides a digital database that records and tracks weapon repurposing by each Member State;

19. *Further invites* Member States to increase efforts in protecting stockpiles of seized illicit arms by working with UNODA to create consistent, adequate training and storage protocols that ensure maximum security of arms stockpiles;

20. *Calls for* a public relations campaign partnered with the UN Department of Global Communications, titled Arms into Access, designed to incorporate individual community action in small weapons arms control that emphasizes the effects of illicit firearms through the use of the aforementioned United Nations-sanctioned data visualization program;

21. *Invites* the United Nations Department of Peace Operations to work closely with Member States in conflict to develop exit plans particular to the host country, to prioritize and gather military equipment, with an emphasis on SALWs left behind, by working in unison with the United Nations Development Programme and the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs to build on exit strategies and urging military personnel to keep up to date records of equipment inventory utilized during wartime and other military conflicts and prioritizing weapons to gather first;

22. *Proposes* that Member States implement a recovery policy guideline, the Weapon Buy Back Program, aiming to encourage Member States through economic incentives to develop

amnesty programs to buy back weapons from residents and NSAs and reallocate illicit weapons collected from crimes by:

- a. Creating a charitable endowment fund to contribute to a voluntary small arms/light weapons program in a concerted effort to remove these weapons from enemy hands;
 - b. Ensuring Member States who sign the aforementioned treaty also agree to have United Nations Peacekeeping oversight to ensure anonymity and integrity in the gun buyback program;
 - c. Promoting videos via social media and other forms of media to raise awareness of the gun buyback program and detail the benefits of a gun-free society;
23. *Encourages* Member States to formulate a clear distinction between non-state actors and state actors inside PMC's and hired mercenaries in order to have a clearer regulation on these groups;
24. *Further encourages* Member States to implement national measures aimed at eradicating the illicit supply of weapons to non-state actors through region-specific arms permits in collaboration with the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute to culturally-specific licenses on imports, exports, and transfers of SALWs;
25. *Invites* Member States to share border control intelligence and implement joint border security and surveillance programs between cooperative neighboring states to monitor and capture criminal non-state actors.



Code: GA1/1/2

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Emphasizing Article 51 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945) on the legitimate right for every Member State to manufacture, import, and retain small arms and light weapons (SALW) to self-defend and fulfill their security needs,

Defining “non-state actors” (NSAs) for the purpose of this document as “organizations and individuals that are not affiliated with, directed by, or funded through the government, including corporations, private financial institutions, and non-government organizations (NGO), and paying particular attention to armed resistance groups,”

Fully alarmed by the 2021 Global Organized Crime Index ranking of arms trafficking as the third most prevalent criminal market globally,

Defining “illicit arms trade” as the import, export, acquisition, sale, delivery, movement or transfer of firearms, their parts, and components and ammunition from or across the territory of one Member State to that of another Member State if any one of the Member State parties concerned does not authorize it,

Reaffirming the significance of 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) (2001) as an essential tool for promoting international cooperation,

Condemning the supplying of arms to NSAs by Member States looking to destabilize regions through promotion and continuation of conflicts involving said NSAs,

Encouraging the international community to follow the United Nations values of multilateralism and collaboration, and highlighting significance of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17 (global partnership),

Recognizing SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), specifically target 16.4 calling to “significantly reduce illicit... arms flows,”

Recognizing the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) statistic on the surplus of the 1 billion SALW traded with disregard of state’s border security,

Taking into consideration the United Nations Office of Drug and Crime’s *Global Study on Firearms Trafficking 2020*, which states that 89% of the worldwide flow of weapons is coming from the western part of the world,

Emphasizing the 5,000 individuals who partook in illicit weapon diversion already and were identified through the database established by International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL),

Alarmed by the increasing re-exportation and misuse of SALW without safeguards or checks as shown by research from the International Action Network on Small Arms and as stated by Security Council resolution 2117 on “Small Arms and Light Weapons” (2013),

Noting the responsibility of exporting Member States to maintain and monitor bilateral and multilateral arms sale agreements,

Convinced of the immediate and urgent need for the implementation of an international instrument within the United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC) that enables Member States to identify and signal illicit weapons trades to other Member States,

Recognizing the United Nations-provided resource of the Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR),

Realizing the roots of these issues stem from inadequate education, and the solution cannot be achieved without the involvement and education of our youth, as set out by the SDG 4 (quality education),

Highlighting SDG target 4.7 that “ensures that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including...promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence,”

Concerned that arms sales to NSAs are destabilizing regions and that to solve this issue we must hold the Western powers proportionally accountable,

Emphasizing the failure of the *Arms Trade Treaty* (ATT) to gain global membership, as highlighted by the Research Society of International Law,

Recognizing the efforts of the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat in publishing a blueprint legislation in an effort to support the Pacific states in their ambitions to implement the Pacific Islands region framework in combating illicit trade of SALW,

1. *Calls upon* developed Member States to take concrete actions to stop the illicit trafficking of SALW by:
 - a. Encouraging a stricter application of border security enforcement to stop the flow of weapons, especially in the regions of Africa, the Americas, and Asia as they are most affected by small arms trafficking and the violence associated with it;
 - b. Advocating for investment in border security cooperation at land borders and on the sea through coast guards cooperating on investigations and seizures of illegal arms shipments;
 - c. Inviting Member States to share information between law enforcement as well as intelligence agencies specifically in regard of arms traffickers;
 - d. Suggesting that Member States invest more in security for the transfer of arms between state actors in order to prevent interception by NSAs, including by:
 - i. Paying special tribute to the Security Council resolution 1373 on “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” (2001), which in Clause 4 emphasizes the importance to enhanced coordination of efforts on national, regional, subregional and international levels in order to reinforce a global response to the threat to international security;
 - ii. Reminding Member States of Security Council resolution 2396 “on threats to international peace and security caused by returning foreign terrorist fighters” (2017), which advocates for further information sharing and border security, all moving towards the goal of greater sharing of information about arms traffickers to increase response time, and communication to prevent illicit weapons traders from escaping the law;

2. *Advocates for* cooperation with multilateral security organizations and treaties for the policing and seizing of naval shipments of illicit arms on the international high seas, following guidelines established by the *United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea* Section 3, Subsection 3, Articles 27-28 (1982), in a similar fashion to Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Naval Inspection Operations by certain Member States in the Gulf of Aden;
3. *Recommends* that Member States assist in enhancing national legal frameworks and regulatory systems to control the trade in weapons through the sharing of national legislation blueprints in regional blocs such as that by the Pacific Island Forum Secretariat and collaboration between government ministries of Member States involved in regional blocs to assist in drafting, strategic planning, personnel, and public support;
4. *Encourages* Member States to enhance their international cooperation through information sharing by:
 - a. Urging Member States to contribute technology through investing in research, and development, and building partnerships with public and private sectors that recommends the use of the UNSCAR to invest in technological and resource allocations, which may include Member State's national governments providing employment opportunities by further developing law enforcement entities and educational opportunities;
 - b. Supporting the application of improved technological accessibility of the INTERPOL Database within border security agencies for developing states by:
 - i. Recommending research methods to allow for the equal access regardless of Member State's socioeconomic status as well as the availability in multiple languages;
 - ii. Calling for security regarding modifications from actors other than INTERPOL, as well as data integrity, requiring the system to be physically located on international territory, and all modifications must be logged, with the logs being accessible to all Member States;
 - c. Asking Member States to establish regional offices that report to INTERPOL, thus providing a new market of jobs to help Member States impoverished by armed conflict;
 - d. Encouraging Member States to interact in joint workshops, and training exercises regarding the illicit transfers of SALW;
 - e. Requesting Member States to cooperate on making the information shared in the ITI more accessible to all;
5. *Directs* Member States to implement and uphold a re-exportation verification agreement facilitated by all Member States involved in any arms deals within the basis of the framework established by European Union (EU) directive 2009/43 by:
 - a. Endorsing Member States that receive arms through a bilateral arms sale to remain in direct and constant contact with the Member State who export the arms to them through all available diplomatic channels such as military attaches, foreign ministers, and even heads of state;

- b. Proposing that the receiving Member States wishing to re-export the originally imported arms to an outside Member State, should receive noted approval from the Member State that originally exported said arms;
 - c. Requesting that existing language from European Union directive 2009/43 to be amended and utilized to create and emulate specific re-exportation guidelines to third party Member States;
 - d. Urging the original arms exporting Member State to be a signatory of any new agreement made by the receiving Member State for re-exporting SALW to any third Member State, these agreements being inherently trilateral with no external parties participating, unless a mediator is requested by the original three Member States;
 - e. Affirming that this re-exportation agreement would allow major exporting Member States to create accountability for their weapons shipments and protect their proprietary technology all while keeping arms out of the hands of dangerous NSAs keeping within the mandate of the General Assembly First Committee;
6. *Strongly advises* the UNODA amend the portion of the UNDC surrounding tracking and reporting illicit weapons sales on the international stage, which would create and provide a more specific location within the UNODA and UNDC for Member States to voice their concerns with other members of the international community on potential illicit trading, prioritizing transparency and confidence building among nations, which would create a quarterly meeting of interested Member States to address grievances and potential illicit weapons shipments or trades;
7. *Seeks that* Member States must retain the opportunity to refute any possibly alleged infractions in front of the reformed UNDC, during each quarterly meeting with reasonably proof given by the Member State regarding their decisions, such as development purposes, security, or protection;
8. *Endorses* the implementation of state legislation mandating arms and all their parts be marked with a serial number and licensed at the time of import, export, and issuing through state agencies by adhering to states interior ministries regulations;
9. *Recommends* that Member States implement existing United Nations programs on education in order to prevent youths from becoming involved in the illicit trade of weapons by:
- a. Encouraging Member states to utilize programs such as the United Nations Youth Champions for Disarmament Development Programme in further educating the youths;
 - b. Imploring Member States to adopt the new UNODA Disarmament Education Strategy as a guideline to improve individual State's education systems, thus emphasizing technological capacity-building and training, greater sustainability, targeted resource allocation, and multi-disciplinary and intersectional approaches;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to maintain sovereignty and control over how these programs may be implemented and maintained.



Code: GA1/1/3

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Guided by the purposes and principals of the United Nations, stated in Article 1.1 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945), which aims to maintain peace and security by taking actions to prevent and remove threats to peace, and for the suppression of acts of aggression or other breaches of peace, and to bring about peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law, adjustment or settlement of international disputes or situations which might lead to a breach of peace,

Reiterating the principles espoused in Article 11 of the *Charter of the United Nations* on co-operation in the maintenance of international peace and security,

Considering the growing threats posed by illicit arms trafficking and the need for coordinated efforts to prevent, detect, and combat this phenomenon while fully respecting the sovereignty of each Member State and the protection of an individual's privacy,

Taking into account the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), specifically SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) and its target 16.4 to "combat organized crime and illicit financial and arms flows," and SDG 17 (partnership for the goals),

Reaffirming General Assembly resolutions 76/32 (2021), 77/80 (2022), and all previous resolutions on "Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and light weapons and collecting them," its resolution 76/232 (2021), 77/71 (2022), and all previous resolutions on "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects," and its resolution 76/58, 77/84, and all previous resolutions on combating and eradicating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects,

Recalling the non-state actors (NSAs) definition provided by UN Security Council resolution 1540 on the "Non-Proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction" (2004), which states that they are any "individual or an entity not acting under the lawful authority of any Member State in conducting activities that come within the scope of this resolution,"

Further reiterating the definition of "small arms and light weapons" (SALW) provided by General Assembly resolution 60/88 on the Report of 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 (2005), which says that small arms are weapons designed for individual use and light weapons are weapons designed for use by two or three persons serving as a crew, although some may be carried and used by a single person,

Affirming the contributions of the international framework on the illicit weapons trade, such as the *UN Program of Action to Prevent, Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects* (PoA), *International Tracing Instrument* (ITI), and the *Arms Trade Treaty* (ATT),

Concerned by the fact that only 113 Member States have become State parties to the ATT due to disagreements with its contents and substance according to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA),

Aware that Article 6 and Article 7 of the ATT is not accountable to all Member States,

Underlining the inconsistency with the ATT and its application in regional coalitions for the purposes of securing borders and bolstering illicit arms tracking across them,

Understanding the requirements of Member States who have agreed to the ITI to ensure that weapons are properly marked and that records are kept,

Acknowledging that illegal trade in small arms and light weapons undermines stability, security, and development in affected countries, and threatens the peace and security of regional blocs,

Bearing in mind that threats posed by the illicit supply of weapons, their acquisition, and their use may vary depending on national, regional, and subregional conditions, as well as supporting measures that address current demands and concerns,

Noting the significance of illicit supply of weapons to NSAs as it poses an imminent threat to international humanitarian law and international human rights law,

Emphasizing in this respect the need for international cooperation, coordination, and enhanced information and intelligence sharing among states to effectively track and disrupt illicit arms trafficking networks, improper use of weapons, and unstable stockpiles,

Gravely concerned that the illicit supply of weapons, improper use of weapons, and destabilizing accumulation can cause armed conflicts and have a wide range of detrimental effects on human rights, development, and the economy, especially on the safety of civilians in armed conflicts, including the disproportionate impact on violence against women and girls, and the increase of sexual and gender-based violence,

Highlighting the expansion of regional specific research in affected conflict areas which prioritizes improving border procedures between sovereign states,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC) and the United 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) in promoting confidence building measures, arms control and reduction, and development at the regional level since their specific subject-matter related scope,

Further welcoming national, regional, and universal campaigns to collect weapons during and post armed conflicts and identify and destroy obsolete and confiscated illicit weapons, and, also, the relevance of data collection and information sharing among Member States with a view to preventing, combating, and eliminating illicit supply of weapons, their use, and the destabilizing accumulation,

Noting with regret that, according to the Small Arms Survey, approximately 1 billion SALW circulate worldwide each year, constituted nearly half of all violent deaths between 2010-2015, and that the trade in SALW is considered the least transparent form of weapons trading,

Recognizing the importance of the *Caribbean Firearms Roadmap* and the *Andean Plan to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its Aspects* in countering the illicit arms trade regionally,

Further recognizing the relevance of data collection and information sharing among Member States with a view to preventing, combating, and eliminating illicit supply of weapons, their use, and the destabilizing accumulation,

Expressing satisfaction to the third substantive session of the Open-Ended Working Group on Ammunition, held in February 2023, which has a mandate on, according to General Assembly resolution 76/233, “problems arising from the accumulation of conventional ammunition stockpiles in surplus” (2021), and to develop a new legal framework to address existing shortcomings in the management of ammunition in all its life cycle,

Declaring its commitments to putting into action current policies and taking practical measures to stop the illegal trade, acquisition, and use of SALW, as well as to support other ongoing processes,

Deeply disturbed by the existence, according to UNODA, of routes for the diversion of SALW to the possession of non-state actors, which are employed for armed conflict, organized crime, and drug cartels,

Seeking greater accountability for post-conflict stockpiles and the immediate retrieval of munitions sent to countries when conflict has concluded,

Cognizant that less than 50% of countries report on military spending within the past 7 years according to UNODA through the *Report on Military Expenditures*,

Conscious that every transaction involving weapons is a possible threat to peace and security in both regional and global perspective,

Taking note of existing domesticated weapons buyback programs utilizing available state resources as seen in the reutilization, transfer, and donation (RDT) framework and customizing it to fit an interregional network,

1. *Stresses* the need for enhanced international cooperation and assistance to strengthen national governments’ capacity to implement the PoA and the ITI including through capacity-building, technical assistance, and voluntary financial support by:
 - a. Proposing wider coordination of Member States’ arms control legislation with the international framework to allow for the translation of international norms and agreements into concrete practices;
 - b. Educating and informing national officials as well as customs control officials in implementing the PoA and ITI by UN regional bodies;
 - c. Suggesting efforts towards international cooperation in identification, investigation, and prosecution of perpetrators of the illicit arms trade between Member States;
 - d. Providing support via the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to Member States for development of effective measures to prevent the sale of illicit weapons as well as contributions from the United Nations Trust Fund on Small Arms;
2. *Suggests* that national governments involve youth when creating policies that address the illicit trade of weapons by promoting youth participation through collaboration with the UN Youth Office and by:
 - a. Further involving youth lived experience and perspectives into their daily work and facilitating the formation of partnerships with young people;
 - b. Encouraging further youth-dedicated processes, and access to training to ensure that they enter a partnership on an equal footing;
 - c. Participating in the process on their own, not by a non-youth actor;

3. *Requests* UNODA to create a United Nations fellowship program on SALW to improve the technical knowledge and expertise of developing countries required for the implementation of the PoA and the ITI;
4. *Asks* the UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC, to provide training for Member States officials within their respective regional scopes about border security, tracking and marking SALW, safeguarding confiscated SALW, recovery and disposal of SALW, and further implementation of the ITI and the PoA;
5. *Welcomes* Member States to allocate resources for expanding regional-specific programs such as the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to develop research aimed at improving border procedures between sovereign states, including the use of technology and training programs in order to facilitate trade, enhance security, and strengthen cooperation among neighboring countries by:
 - a. Utilizing the United Nations Regional Collaborative Platform (RCP) to enhance cross-border cooperation in each respective region to curtail illicit arms trade by:
 - i. Proffering the ITI and PoA as the primary tools for countering illicit arms trade in each region under their auspices;
 - ii. Further establishing culturally relevant programs in each region similar to the African Union's *Nairobi Protocol* where there would otherwise be no regional arms tracing agreements;
 - b. Implementing, with the collaboration of UNODA, recommendations from UNIDIR's *International Tracing Instrument: Examining Options to Support Operationalization (2018)* by:
 - i. Using all recommendations on pages 19 to 24, which makes recommendations regarding clear violations or shortcomings of the ITI exist as determined by UNODA in each region managed by the RCP;
 - ii. Implementing relevant recommendations from pages 19 to 24 of UNIDIR's document selectively, rather than wholesale if certain regions under the RCP are seeing partial success of the ITI;
6. *Invites* bordering Member States to access each other's databases with voluntary permission, as prescribed by the ITI;
7. *Strongly encourages* the review and voluntary participation in the open discussion of the ATT in the *General Assembly First Committee* to discuss specific areas of dispute and contention by:
 - a. Addressing the lack of ATT ratification as an issue in the General Assembly First Committee;
 - b. Advocating and collaborating with Member States on issues related to them and their global region;
 - c. Recommending adding an agenda item on this topic for the upcoming session *Conference on Disarmament (CD)*;
 - d. Creating an agenda for actionable steps on addressing this issue and incorporating appropriate verbiage into the ATT, with additional attention placed on Article 6 and Article 7 of the ATT by:

- i. Moving through the ATT as a whole to identify areas, contents or substance which lead to non-consensus and identifying potential change with the Articles;
 - ii. Allowing Member States to highlight disagreements in the ATT and push to amend while engaging in discussion as to why they would like to see an amendment;
 - iii. Addressing the roles, participation, implications, consequences and impact of Non-State Actors and Non-Governmental Organizations;
 - e. Aligning with UNODA agendas and missions to disarm, while in conjunction with the United Nations Disarmament Commission;
8. *Recommends* UNODA to further cooperate with International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) in tandem with the ITI by referring to the illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System database and coordinate tracking efforts with official UN institutions such as the Container Control Program;
 9. *Commends* Member States adopting and utilizing to the ITI and recommends Member States and organizations that are in the position to do so to increase support in capacity-building by providing resources and guiding documents in enhancing cooperation and information-sharing in weapons tracing to the national authorities, this way enabling the States parties to fulfill and comply with their obligations under this instrument;
 10. *Asks* Member States to follow the United Nation Guiding Principles on Business and Human Right that were set in the Human Rights Council resolution 17/4 on “human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises” by considering the implementation of a “seal of approval,” which:
 - a. Ensures that a background check has been made, informing the buyer of the exact origin of the weapons;
 - b. Confirms the identity of the buyer, ensuring that NSAs are not granted access to weapons that have been approved by the national government;
 - c. Encourages each Member State to prioritize transfers that have this approval prior to the finalization of any transaction;
 - d. Recommends the Internal Weapon Trade Programs (IWTP) would be in charge of the legislative framework regarding any approval and that any Member States that do not create an IWTP or lack the resource to create an IWTP would be suggested to use another Member State’s “seal of approval” as a guideline to create their own;
 11. *Reminds* Member States to inform to the PoA the stockpile, production, and trade of SALW ammunition since the scope of the PoA includes the management of ammunition through its whole life cycle;
 12. *Implores* Member States to submit to the Open-Ended Working Group on Ammunition a national biennial report both presenting their position on the new legal framework and on the surplus accumulation of conventional ammunition;
 13. *Calls upon* exporter Member States to broaden the marking standards of SALW as stipulated by the standards to Firearms of Article 8 of the Firearms Protocol to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime to mark the ammunition of SALW as well;

14. *Encourages* Member States to consider annual donations to missions that are working on clearing up war remnants and weapons stockpiles and closer cooperation between different missions that have similar approaches, such as the SALW & mine action operations of North Atlantic Treaty Organization;
15. *Further recommends* UNODA to create the joint Global Disarmament Policy, a committee working in addition to the Commission, funded by the UN Peacebuilding Fund, The World Bank's State and Peacebuilding Fund, and United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR), tasked with:
 - a. Utilizing a weapon buyback program that will provide Member States with financial compensations provided they return weapons that had previously been supplied as foreign military aid, back to the exporting State, similar to the lend-lease program in order to maintain accountability in both actors;
 - b. Expanding the PoA through tasking the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime with coordinating regional efforts on removing weapons from the black market and the destruction of decommissioned weapons;
16. *Further invites* Member States to establish an IWTP within their respective governments following the weapons trade framework used by the Reutilization, Transfer, and Donation service within the Defense Logistics Agency by:
 - a. Utilizing a research program like UNIDIR to ensure that a Member States government and their respective regional blocks have the capability to establish and sustain an IWTP;
 - b. Providing a trackable purchase program whereby Member States can purchase and reutilize weapons from within interregional conflict zones thus reducing the supply to third state actors;
 - c. Relocating accessible SALWs from the hands of third state actors as well as discarded SALWs to state government owned facilities monitored by authorized UN approved agencies;
 - d. Redistributing abandoned or unexploded ordinances within the established and approved interregional parties approved by the UN;
 - e. Receiving supplementary funding for this program has the ability to come from UN programs and UN regional centers for peace and disarmament such as UNLIREC, UNRCPD, UNREC or the UNSCAR;
17. *Summons* the United Nations Secretary-General, in collaboration with the Group of Governmental Experts of the POA, to elaborate a guideline of good practices to manage the issue of 3D printed SALW by 2025 that should include, but not limit to, recommendations on domestic and regional regulations of 3D SALW blueprints, how to detect the illegal trade of 3D weapons, and technical assistance that could be provided and/or needed to make an effective custom border control;
18. *Urges* Member States, United Nations agencies, and international, regional, and national bodies, to take into account the particular effects of conflict and post-conflict situations on women's safety, mobility, economic activity, and opportunities, in order to reduce the risk of women to actively participate in the illicit transfer of weapons.



Code: GA1/1/4

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Acknowledging the efforts of the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA) to capture over 90% of Major Conventional Arms, small arms and light weapons (SALW) trade, as well as the disparities in the reporting of imports and exports by Member States,

Noting with satisfaction the progress of the Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS) database in which law enforcement around the world are able to track illicit weapons across Member States borders,

Recognizing the *Arms Trade Treaty* (ATT) and its work in regulating the international trade of conventional arms,

Recalling the success of the *Nairobi Protocol for the Prevention, Control, and Reduction Of Small Arms and Light Weapons In the Great Lakes Region and the Horn of Africa*, which removed over five thousand illicit weapons from circulation in 2016,

Keeping in mind there have been more than 200,000 violent deaths each year between 2010 and 2015 and minorities bear the heaviest burden due to the lethal use of illicit weapons according to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA),

Cognizant that the emerging technological innovation advancement on firearm weapons increases the risk of human rights violence,

Considering the growing threats posed by illicit arms trafficking and the need for coordinated efforts to prevent, detect, and combat this phenomenon while fully respecting the sovereignty of each Member State and the protection of an individual's privacy,

Aware of the existence of the #Youth4Disarmament initiative of UNODA that utilizes a modern web platform to facilitate conversations among youth and considering the need to educate and make them aware of the threat that irresponsible use of weapons in hands of non-state actors (NSAs),

Bearing in mind the role of education to everyone, especially young people, as a key piece in the fight against the reality of illegal arms trafficking both in the national and local communities and how to act upon it, promoting the culture of peace, and as a fundamental human right as emphasized under the SDG 4 (quality education) and Article 26 of the *Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (1948),

Expressing deep concern regarding the lack of education and inclusion of non-proliferation and illicit supply of arms topics in curricula across the globe, especially focused in regions where illegal weapons trade is of major concern, whilst taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters in their 2017 report, which expressed concerns about decreasing interest of young people regarding non-proliferation education,

Further recognizing the significant role that poverty plays in exacerbating the causal relationship between NSAs and increased use, trade, and production of illicit weapons as outlined in SDG 1 (no poverty) and SDG 11 (sustainable cities and communities),

Conscious of the need to develop cross-cutting relationships at all levels to address the damaging

socioeconomic and environmental effects of conflicts fueled by the illicit supply and sale of SALW in accordance with SDG 17 (partnership for the goals),

Acknowledging the efforts already done by the United Nations Peacekeeping missions in various member states regarding the threat weapons pose to human security,

Noting with regret the complications regarding political situations, where social conflicts that lead to illicit supply of weapons are present, as previously outlined in other international goals such as SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions),

1. *Encourages* Member States to adopt, enforce, and increase functionality of the UNROCA through efforts from each individual Member State, such as increased reporting from Member States, particularly for imports and exports;
2. *Strongly advises* the introduction of a four-point international plan that further strengthens and unifies the existing iARMS and ITI programs by:
 - a. Encouraging all weapons that are internationally exported and traded be properly marked and recorded with the ITI by each Member State;
 - b. Suggesting records of traced weapons be marked and inputted into a private database by Member States and a report of this database be submitted annually by Member States to the UNROCA as deemed appropriate by Member States regarding their regional development and security;
 - c. Calling upon unification efforts to existing tracking systems that will provide cohesion and transparency across these databases;
 - d. Implementing a program for citizens to report events of the crime, and small-arms violence anonymously;
3. *Reiterates* the importance of interested Member States adopting the ATT and urges Member States who have adopted the ATT to follow it more closely;
4. *Encourages* early detection of proliferation through a partnership with the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) to address the emerging risk of technological innovation on firearm weapons through the following, but not limited to household items, commercially available products, and 3D printing;
5. *Strongly advises* increased capacity-building efforts of border security by:
 - a. Promoting cooperation with regional organizations, such as the Regional Disarmament Branch that will provide education modules and training on the implementation of the improved ITI and database management for the benefit of international and national authorities through regional organizations;
 - b. Implementing an expanded approach to the Stockholm International Peace Institute, a mechanism that acts towards the field of capacity building by maintaining the ATT-relevant cooperative and active obtention of the database;
6. *Encourages* Member States to increase the effort on missions that focus on clearing up war remnants and weapons stockpiles and closer cooperation between different missions that have similar approaches, such as but not limited to, the SALW and mine action operations of North Atlantic Treaty Organization;
7. *Suggests* localizing the enactment of educational programs, such as the

#Youth4Disarmament platform, to enlighten youth about the threat of SALW in the hands of NSAs by:

- a. Increasing the efforts of Member States in implementing international, national, and local legislation that will improve youth education and school personnel training about the illicit supply of SALW;
 - b. Promoting the inclusive cooperation of Member States when implementing this legislation;
 - c. Increasing support of peacekeeping efforts throughout regions with the greatest obstacles to these education initiatives;
 - d. Creating a fact-checking software for social media platforms, and more inclusive means of education, by inviting depleted nations to join through UNODA;
8. *Recommends* the creation of national voluntary SALW surrender programs within Member States based on the *Nairobi Protocol (2006)* by:
- a. Requesting any individual or group that comes into the possession of an unmarked, illicitly retrieved, or previously unpossessed SALW to submit it to a national government entity for marking by the International Tracing Instrument (ITI) and for any of the following actions to be taken at the discretion of the specific policies, decided by each respective Member State, such as:
 - i. The Member State compensating the individual for their weapon submission in accordance with existing recovery policies such as, but not limited to the Gun Buyback Program in the United States and Nigeria;
 - ii. Returning the weapon to the individual who submitted it after it has been properly marked in accordance with the ITI;
 - iii. Yielding the weapon to a national government stockpile to be used for current or future defense purposes;
 - iv. Rendering the weapon unusable by the national government entity and yielded for destruction and disposal;
 - v. Increasing transparency of national SALW collection and marking policies;
 - b. Encouraging local law enforcement agencies to work within communities to identify and track small arms and light weapons caches;
9. *Calls upon* all Member States to increase their efforts to sustainably develop impoverished communities where individuals are vulnerable to the recruitment into violent non-state actor organizations through:
- a. The promotion of economic growth and sustainable development in accordance with the targets and goals of the SDGs;
 - b. Strengthening of the recognition of the universal human rights of accessible education and affordable school programs, economic opportunities, particularly in the agricultural sector, and racial, ethnic, social, religious, sexual, and gender equality;
 - c. The promotion of efforts by the UNIDIR such as the creation of Innovative Labs to encourage local movements and initiatives that address the issue of illicit weapons

with peaceful means and to limit the movement of illicit weapons through, conferences, workshops training, socio-civic engagement programs, reintegration program;

10. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen border control and ensure territorial sovereignty to combat the illicit supply of weapons by:
 - a. Increasing research in artificial intelligence to improve information-sharing mechanisms among border security initiatives;
 - b. Increasing research in the field of surveillance technologies, such as drones;
 - c. Considering maritime and land border checkpoints that can detect and intercept illegal shipments of weapons.



Code: GA1/1/5

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Affirming the need for strong cooperation among Member States, as well as within the United Nations, as stated by Article 11 of the *Charter of the United Nations* (1945),

Keeping in mind Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) and targets 16.4 and 16.6, which seek to prevent illicit arms proliferation and ensure transparent and accountable institutions, but concerned that many states do not have the resources to follow the marking and tracing agreements ascribed in the *Programme of Action on Small Arms and Light Weapons* (PoA) and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI),

Noting the role that the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) has in ensuring well-regulated arms exchanges that emphasize the right to self-governance of Member States,

Recognizing that the Container Control Programme (CCP), established by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), successfully confiscated 570,000 “strategic goods” in 2021, including weapons and ammunition, but could benefit from expansion and further development,

Reaffirming Article 2 of the *Charter of the United Nations* and the importance of national sovereignty, including a Member State’s right to educate its youth and citizens on firearm safety to create a collaborative relationship between Member States and their citizens,

Deeply appreciative of the value of regional centers for peace, including 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), and the work they perform,

Taking into account the reliance of some Member States' economies on the legal arms industry and the impact that regulations can have, as stated by the UNODA,

1. *Recommends* that the United Nations reinforce existing tracing systems for weapons, especially the PoA and ITI, in cooperation with Member States governments, while respecting their national sovereignty, to prevent arms from falling into the hands of criminals, terrorists, mercenaries, or other violent non-state actors (NSAs) by:
 - a. Increasing their involvement in capacity-building efforts to improve the marking and tracing of weapons to negate the diversion of weapons from official channels to NSAs to disrupt networks responsible for further illicit arms trafficking;
 - b. Helping weapons importers trace their in-progress shipments throughout transit;
 - c. Encouraging cooperation between the PoA, ITI, and the CCP in preventing the illicit trade of arms by asking for accurate quantities of the weapons being exported and the optional recording of where each armament shipment has gone;

2. *Calls for* Member States to be held accountable through voluntary national reporting to the United Nations Register of Conventional Arms and to better track weapons transfers and national stockpiles by:
 - a. Providing explanations for the lack of reports or of gaps between the reports of importing and exporting nations;
 - b. Collaborating with the UNODA Conventional Arms Branch to provide direction and resources to resolve the stated problems;
 - c. Encouraging Member States to act in compliance with the preexisting *United Nations General Assembly Code of Conduct and Accountability*, which is composed of the *Charter of the United Nations*, strategic frameworks, program budgets, performance evaluations, ethical and integrity standards, and guidelines for enterprise management and risk management evaluation;
3. *Encourages* the support of international frameworks, including the PoA and ITI, that promote standards for legally trading arms to prevent arms from falling into the hands of NSAs through:
 - a. Standardizing the registration of weapons internationally to streamline legal sales;
 - b. Promoting Member States' adoption of licensing systems for arms imports and exports;
 - c. Increasing transparency of weapon manufacturers and their suppliers to prevent black market resale of legal weapons;
4. *Recommends* the following improvements to the CCP in each respective Member State to encourage regulations for monitoring borders and restricting illicit trade by:
 - a. Creating an incentive program under the UNODC that encourages all Member States that are not currently part of the CCP to adopt the measures, which will include the allocation of initiatory training to begin the system within each respective new Member State, the provision of the necessary technologies to perform risk assessment across borders, and the assignment of an officer in the UNODC to report to and work closely with each respective new Member State in the first two years for advice and improvement;
 - b. Encouraging Member States to invest in the training and capacity-building for each of their appointed and authorized law enforcement agencies, border control officials, and other relevant stakeholders to improve their skills in identifying illicit weapons, their knowledge of the usage of marking and tracing techniques, how to interpret and analyze data from national and international databases, screening processes for weapons exports, and record-keeping techniques to help track the flow of illegal weapons more efficiently;
 - c. Motivating Member States to implement background checks of personnel to ensure the sole inclusion of legitimate actors in the monitoring of illicit weapons over borders;
 - d. Allowing only actors authorized by the Member States' governments to transfer weapons within or through their borders;
5. *Encourages* Member States to work with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the United Nations Academic Impact to raise awareness of the

topic of firearms safety by using social media platforms and elective public school programs while maintaining standards of inclusion and diversity;

6. *Recommends* the expansion of regional centers for peace and disarmament operating under UNODA with the same framework of organizations such as UNLIREC, UNRCPD, and UNREC, and the participation of the Regional Disarmament Branch, hoping that by strengthening these bodies interconnectivity will improve;
7. *Recommends* that Member States increase the effectiveness of existing national legislation regarding the illicit supply of weapons to NSAs and reduce black market share in the trade by:
 - a. Establishing anti-money-laundering regulations that would encourage banks to report any transactions they suspect may be related to arms trafficking to the relevant government office;
 - b. Enacting legislation designed to reduce the illegal black-market supply of unaccounted weaponry within each Member State, including voluntary arms release programs and the destruction of seized illicit weapons if they are not recycled for national use;
 - c. Reducing bureaucratic work by establishing frameworks, simplifying processes, increasing transparency, and fostering collaboration.



Code: GA1/1/6

Committee: General Assembly First Committee

Topic: Addressing the Illicit Supply of Weapons to Non-State Actors

The General Assembly First Committee,

Reaffirming the importance of initiatives such as the International Small Arms Control, International Ammunition Technical Guidelines, and SaferGuard in firearm stockpile management,

Acknowledging the existence of past resolutions, including General Assembly resolution 75/241 on “the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects” (2020), the *Arms Trade Treaty* (ATT), and its integrations into the *Programme of Action to Prevent Combat, and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons* (PoA) and the *International Tracing Instrument* (ITI),

Underlining the achievements of the United Nations Registrar and Convention of Arms (UNROCA) and its ability to track approximately 90% of arms trade among Member States participating in the ITI,

Noting that poorly managed munitions stockpiles have led to deaths and displacement of thousands of civilians through the use by non-state actors (NSAs) outlined by the “Security Report by the Secretary General on Small Arms” (S/2011/255),

Alarmed by approximately one billion firearms in circulation around the globe currently, with 85% in the hands of civilians according to the *Small Arms Survey*,

Noting with deep concern the supply of ammunition to NSAs, the lack of tracing, the importance of record keeping and manufacturing accountability impact on the peace, security, and safety at the regional, national, and international level,

Concerned by the growing threats posed by illicit arms trafficking and the need for coordinated efforts to prevent, detect, and combat this phenomenon while fully respecting the sovereignty of each Member State and protection of individual privacy,

Confident in the United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) ability to collaborate with the Committee on the Status of Women, and the Committee on Crime Prevention, Criminal Justice to collect information on the disproportionate effect of gun violence towards women,

Taking into consideration the existing framework of the Container Control Program (CCP) under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), in utilizing emerging technologies to enhance their efforts to combat the illicit trade of weapons to NSAs,

Acknowledging the potential of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, blockchain, high resolution satellite imagery, geofencing, among others to advance Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions) and revolutionize the United Nations’ efforts to combat the illicit trade of weapons to NSAs,

Affirming the current efforts to propagate the safety of Member States’ citizens privacy under the 2021 *Recommendation on the Ethics of Artificial Intelligence*, which will help prevent NSAs from leveraging artificial intelligence in malicious ways,

Noting the potential of NSAs to pose a serious threat to global security and human life through the use of bioweapons and cyberwarfare,

Deeply concerned by the possibility of NSAs using bioweapons in small arm modified by biological agent or toxins, when there is no access to conventional military or other armed forces, and the increasing prevalence of cyberwarfare capabilities possessed by NSAs,

Reemphasizing the General Assembly resolution 73/127 on the “International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace” (2018) and the PoA, which promotes multilateral collaboration among Member States and regional organizations, to address the imminent threat of illicitly supplied small arms, weapons of mass destruction and cyberweapons to NSAs,

Bearing in mind the importance of the SDGs, especially SDG 17 (partnerships for the goals), SDG 4 (quality education), and SDG 16 (peace, justice and strong institutions), which are a foundation for long term solutions, for the issues brought upon by illicit arms trafficking, specifically about the disproportionate impact of unchecked SALW on women and children SDG 16.2, which fuels gender-based violence, SDG 5.2, and SDG 8.7,

Fully aware of the importance of ethical weapons management and informing societies of the issues at hand through weapons program initiatives in similarity to the success of #Youth4Disarmament,

Noting the lack of an organized educational and communication framework within universities and companies that raises awareness about the stakeholders, and interactions involved in the illicit arms trade,

Viewing with appreciation the United Nations Scientific and Cultural Organizations’ sponsorships to educational organizations such as the International Baccalaureate’s (IB) global politics and civic engagement programs as a tool to mitigate violence and promote peace through their disarmament and peace studies,

Expresses its hope that Member States will implement new legislation to monitor the sales and manufacturing of any weapons across the Member States, such as the General Assembly resolution 55/255, the “Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition”, supplementing the *United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime* (2001),

Taking into consideration the existing framework of the CCP under the UNODC, in utilizing emerging technologies to enhance their efforts to combat the illicit trade of weapons to NSAs,

1. *Recommends* the strengthening of national capacities by encouraging international organizations such as UNODA, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research, the United Nations Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation, and donor Member States to provide technical and financial support for capacity building and improvement in technology in relation to accurately keep a track on stockpiles;
2. *Encourages* Member States to increase interagency cooperation through collaboration between various government agencies, law enforcement agencies, and international organizations such as the SaferGuard Programme, International Small Arms Control, and International Ammunition Technical Guidelines to share information and resources, coordinate efforts, and improve overall capacity for enforcing regulations to prevent the proliferation and divergence of stockpiles;
3. *Encourages* the use of tracking systems for Member States under a sect of the UNODA Conventional Arms Fund to control weapon stockpiles within their Member States;

4. *Advises* Member and Observer States to implement ammunition tracking, in accordance with the ITI, through the usage of barcodes on ammunition packaging to deliver information pertaining to the purchaser and the manufacturer facilitating the marking of trafficking routes, and recording repeat users within regions;
5. *Further encourages* Member States and Observer States to communicate with ammunition manufacturers within their sovereign borders for increasing cooperation through discussion forums;
6. *Calls* for Member States to strengthen their implemented policies that could eliminate problems such as straw purchasing whereby purchases of firearms are made by licensed people for people who do not have the legal right to own one in order to reduce the heavy record of gun trafficking;
7. *Encourages* the training of officials responsible for implementing national arms transfer controls to improve control, and strengthening the capacity of customs for better control of arms and ammunitions;
8. *Calls for* the provision of machine learning technology to Member States through UNROCA to geospatially locate and target areas that are more susceptible to host illicit weapons suppliers;
9. *Encourages* Member States to work with civil society organizations, namely women's organizations and international organizations with sustainable funding, to undertake regional data collection as well as aggregating data from the UN Global Peace Index (GPI) and UNROCA, to better understand data on the number of female civilian casualties as well as their displacement suffered by the use of SALW by NSAs;
10. *Recommends* the UN Office for Disarmament Affairs to open a research-based report on the impact caused by untraceable firearms to:
 - a. Collect research on the impact of untraceable firearms and the impact that they have on vulnerable groups internationally;
 - b. Examine the research to determine problem areas that are greatly affected by untraceable firearms;
 - c. Provide the data collected and give them to non-governmental organizations to be used in rehabilitating those affected by untraceable firearms;
11. *Recommends* that Member States embark on the submission of yearly ammunition trade records as records are kept by decade to encourage public information sharing among countries;
12. *Recommends* the enforcement of safe firearm trade by creating a risk assessment framework through the CCP that focuses on risk management as a part of its operations by focusing on data collection and analysis guidelines which would be designed to:
 - a. Collect data from multiple sources including customs declarations, shipping companies, international and national databases, and international cooperations such as the CCP, ITI, and other relevant United Nations instruments;
 - b. Analyze data in order to identify patterns and trends in illicit trade by collectively analyzing types of goods commonly involved in illicit trade, routes, and methods used to smuggle illicit goods, and ports and regions frequently found to be used for illicit trade;

- c. Develop a risk scoring system for cargo shipments within UNROCA based on the patterns and trends mentioned above;
 - d. Update the data and analysis, regularly, to ensure that risk assessment is based on the most up-to-date information available;
- 13. *Endorses* the promotion of international cooperation and the exchange of best practices by sharing information, and lessons learned from past experiences with other Member States with similar programs;
- 14. *Encourages* Member States to participate in confidence-building measures, such as providing and promoting record-keeping, reports, and transparency, towards achieving open communication on the illicit supply of weapons to NSAs through the use of modern technology by:
 - a. Exploring the use of blockchain technology such as those used in crypto currency to track the movement of weapons and ammunition throughout the supply chain, making it more difficult for illegal arms dealers to move weapons undetected;
 - b. Encouraging the sharing of high-resolution satellite imagery among Member States to identify suspicious illicit activity, such as large-scale arms movements, that may not be visible from the ground and analyzing this data by AI algorithms to identify patterns, and predict future movements;
 - c. Adopting predictive modeling artificial intelligence under the auspices of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which would have the capability of raising a flag to allow for a human element to detect both metallic and non-metallic concealed weapons related to suspicious activity that are crossing borders with a tie in current databases available with the purpose of identifying the suspicious activity of the illicit trade of weapons to NSAs while ensuring that the aggregate data would be commensurate with each Member States privacy laws and where applicable, create unilateral agreements on what data is acceptable for use in machine learning;
- 15. *Emphasizes* the need for Member States to take measures to prevent the production, possession, and use of bioweapons, including through enhancing national legislation, and strengthening law enforcement and border control measures;
- 16. *Calls upon* Member States to promote global biosecurity and biosafety, including through awareness-raising, capacity-building, and technical assistance, and to establish or strengthen national frameworks for responding to biosecurity threats;
- 17. *Urges* Member States to take the necessary measures to prevent cyberterrorism, including through enhancing national cybersecurity capabilities, cooperating with other states and international organizations to share best practices, and strengthening legal, and policy frameworks for responding to cyberattacks;
- 18. *Recommends* that UNODA request funding for youth-led education programs which focuses on moving from the transfer of illicit weapons towards more ethical management of weapons by:
 - a. Implementing an age-inclusive program which will be disbursed to schools and promote disarmament and peace by involving school curricula at all levels and developing age-appropriate educational materials and resources that promote a culture of peace and non-violence, such as short, accessible, and easily

- understandable age-appropriate videos on social media regarding good security practices;
- b. Organizing a youth program teaching basic data security practices, by creating a class in the IB program which will focus on cybersecurity, technology in security, and the proliferation of artificial intelligence;
 - c. Recommending Member States establish youth conventions on regional levels to discuss issues of disarmament, non-proliferation, and the effects of illicit weapons in the hands of NSAs;
19. *Informs* the international community on the negative effects of NSAs on women in their respective societies through the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women *Annual Report*;
20. *Encourages* the establishment of an organizational body under the UNODA's Saving Life Entity Fund and UNSCAR in order to inhibit the desire to access weapons illicitly in the near future by:
- a. Controlling the aftermath of used military munitions from military and governmental events into recycling management;
 - b. Using these organization bodies as disarmament centers for educational campaign purposes both for governmental agencies and the general public;
21. *Utilizes* the GPI to inform other committees and Member States on underfunded education opportunities in geographic locations that are likely to engender extremist thought;
22. *Suggests* that Member States work in collaboration with UNODA to coordinate SALW Management and Control Interventions to strengthen national mechanisms for small arms management and control by:
- a. Requesting UNODA to seek financial aid from initiatives similar to The Saving Lives entity to be provided to regional organizations or Member States to help build their capacity to control the flow of SALW through:
 - i. Funding for training programs, technical assistance, and artificial intelligence, primarily through International Telecommunication Union's "AI For Good" series;
 - ii. Private corporation initiatives, such as Google's "AI for Global Goals" program, which aims to address the SDGs;
 - b. Encouraging the use of UNODA offices as disarmament hubs to facilitate effective weapon collection programs;
23. *Urges* communication and education between transport companies utilizing the Strategic Communications Department of the United Nations and the United Nations Department of Global Communications to facilitate the detection of and report suspicious transactions of illicit supplies to NSAs;
24. *Strongly advises* Member States to create outreach programs that inform on the illicit trade of weapons by utilizing pre-existing UN organizations such as the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (UNIDIR) for research and development, seminars, university courses, and research programs, and inform companies of their ethical and moral responsibilities;

25. *Requests* that UNIDIR conduct reports of violations of the ATT and UN PoA, applicable only to Member States and Observer States who have ratified the ATT;
26. *Recommends* the Member States to introduce work on initiatives on the national and regional level based upon existing PoA guidelines by:
- a. Collaborating with existing regional institutions such as the African Union and European Union to engage in capacity building on weapons identification and trafficking;
 - b. Contemplating the establishment of voluntary targets by Member States to reach the goals of the ITI;
 - c. Encouraging Member States with the ability to do so to work with the Secretary-General's Saving Lives Entity;
 - d. Fostering a strong relationship with Civil Society on the repercussions of the continual illicit trade of SALW;
 - e. Providing adequate resources and assistance to support the PoA particularly for developing countries and under resourced nations;
27. *Fully supports* international commitment to multilateralism and diplomacy amongst Member States, strengthening international governance and establishing a foundation of trust to combat the illicit supply of weapons as a whole in all aspects through the use of existing UN forums and procedures to strengthen trust between Member States by:
- a. Working in collaboration with the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), specifically the Joint UNDP-DPPA Programme on Building National Capacities for Conflict Prevention, to avoid violent conflicts by prohibiting the illicit supply of weapons to NSAs with malicious intent;
 - b. Following the agenda items of the Conference on Disarmament, negotiating multilateral arms limitation and disarmament such as *Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons*, *the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction*, and *Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty*, which addresses weapons highly desired by NSAs;
 - c. Supporting regional disarmament and demobilization programs, reducing illicit small arms and providing alternative livelihoods for former combatants, supporting long-term peacebuilding and sustainable solutions to minimize the likelihood of these weapons being reused for nefarious activities;
 - d. Requesting for the increase in funding from the UNSCAR related to the PoA;
28. *Expresses its hope* that Member States will implement new legislation to monitor the sales and manufacturing of any weapons, such as the General Assembly resolution 55/255 (2001) Firearms Protocol by:
- a. Encouraging large fines as punishment for the illicit supplies and utilizing the funds to be reinvested into the created institutions;
 - b. Implementing thorough procedures and strengthening the background checks done upon the possessions of these illicit weapons;

- c. Utilizing biometrics to identify individuals who have handled a particular weapon, enhancing tracing and tracking based on cross checking firearms' serial numbers against a database accessible to law enforcement officials;
 - d. Implementing the Wassenaar Arrangement's guidelines on national legal and regulatory frameworks, including export licensing procedures, end-use monitoring and verification, and penalties for violations;
- 29. *Strongly encourages*, under the mandate of the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC)*, that the ICC and the International Court of Justice adopt a definition of NSAs that makes NSAs included under individual responsibility law, with an emphasis on holding private military companies and other paramilitary organizations accountable as they perpetuate the continual flow of illicit arms and should be considered potential threats;
- 30. *Encourages* Member and Observer States to work towards implementing similar standards that are outlined in the ATT and PoA in accordance with their regional values, so that Member and Observer States are held to a standard of transparency and the ability to have a united front against supply and trade of illicit weapons to NSAs;
- 31. *Recommends* the implementation of a recovery policy guideline for Member States, called the Weapon Buy Back Programme, which encourages Member States, through an economic incentive, who received weapons from foreign nations to take the necessary steps to return these weapons back to the providing nations, in order to prevent these weapons from disappearing;
- 32. *Encourages* UNODA to implement new policies in addition to the small arms and light weapons, to promote the legal sale of recycled weapons rather than transporting new ones;
- 33. *Establishing* aid with European countries in order to use the *European Fund for International Partnerships* to provide essential support to efforts to build the capacity and infrastructure needed to prevent the diversion of arms to regions affected by the illicit trade and diversion of weapons;
- 34. *Recommends* the enforcement of safe firearm trade by creating a risk assessment framework built on the risk assessment management through the CCP that provides clear guidelines that focuses on risk management as a part of its operations by focusing on data collection and analysis guidelines which would be designed to:
 - a. Collect data from multiple sources that are available to Member States involved in the trade including customs declarations, shipping companies, international and national databases, and international cooperations such as the CCP, ITI, and other relevant UN instruments;
 - b. Analyze data in order to identify patterns and trends in illicit trade by collectively analyzing types of goods commonly involved in illicit trade, routes, and methods used to smuggle illicit goods, and ports and regions frequently found to be used for illicit trade;
 - c. Develop a risk scoring system for cargo shipments within UNROCA based on the patterns and trends mentioned above;
 - d. Recommend yearly updating the data and analysis to ensure that risk assessment is based on the most up-to-date information available;

35. *Suggests* that Member States implement geofencing technologies similar to the ones used in the tracking of fleet vehicles to control the trade of illicit weapons to NSAs over the border through the CCP, focusing on Port Control Units and Air Cargo Control Units, as well as training local customs agents on usage of the geofencing technologies.