



American Model United Nations
General Assembly First Committee

GA First/II/5

SUBJECT OF RESOLUTION: The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects

SUBMITTED TO: The General Assembly First Committee

The General Assembly First Committee,

1 *Deeply concerned* with the small arms and light weapons violence and the illicit
2 trade of such,

3
4 *Calling to mind* the success that International Criminal Police Organization
5 (INTERPOL) and similar international organizations have had in combating illicit arms
6 trade, namely in Cabo Verde,

7
8 *Noting with regret* the heightened state of conflict in the world, which can be
9 directly attributed to the proliferation of small arms,

10
11 *Recalling* the nature of the current resolution in place, in accordance to the illicit
12 trade of small arms and light weapons,

13
14 *Understanding* the prevalence of small arms and light weapons existing in certain
15 regions which contribute to prolonging conflicts,

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17 *Alarmed* by conflicts exacerbated by small arms and light weapons, and the
18 destructive effects they have on socioeconomic conditions within Member States,

19
20 *Recognizing* the ongoing efforts of United Nations (UN) peacekeeping missions
21 within conflict regions, as well as the work of INTERPOL and other Non-Governmental
22 Organizations (NGOs) in combating the illicit arms trade,

23
24 *Alarmed* by the 200,000 people who lose their lives due to the illicit trade of small
25 arms and light weapons each year,

26
27 *Understanding* that curbing the illicit arms trade requires international
28 cooperation to choke the supply and demand lines of illicit small arms and light weapons,

29
30 *Believing* that local governments must empower police forces to increase
31 effectiveness and decrease corruption,

32
33 *Acknowledging* that reducing the ease of acquiring and utilizing small arms and

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34 light weapons ammunition is required for any strategy to combat the illicit trade of arms,
35

36 *Commending* the efforts of the Arms Trade Treaty, and the Member States that
37 have signed and ratified this document,
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39 *Realizing* Article 2 of United Nations Charter in support of national sovereignty,
40 which should not be violated under any circumstance,
41

42 *Noting with approval* the efforts of United Nations Office for Disarmament
43 Affairs (UNODA) in promoting the disarmament efforts in the area of small arms and
44 light weapons,
45

46 1. *Encourages* international and domestic law enforcement agencies to utilize
47 existing regional organizations (ROs) to share information and data in criminal databases:

48 (a) These pre-existing regional organizations include but are not limited to:

49 (i) African Union (AU);

50 (ii) European Union (EU);

51 (iii) Organization of American States (OAS);

52 (iv) Caribbean Community (CARICOM);

53 (v) Arab League;

54 (vi) Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN);

55 (vii) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC);

56 (b) To facilitate information sharing related to the illicit arms trade, including but
57 not limited to:

58 (i) Known weapons dealers;

59 (ii) Supply routes;

60 (iii) Banking and financial records related to the arms trade;

61 (c) To allow for tracking the broad movements and trends of the small arms and
62 light weapons (SALW) trade;

63 (d) Ensuring information availability to be utilized by conflict experts and
64 international and regional law enforcement organizations in order to apprehend known
65 arms dealers and end-users of illicit SALWS;

66 (e) Recommends that Member States submit information on a strictly voluntary
67 basis in order to maintain national sovereignty;
68

69 2. *Strongly recommends* Member States reach out to a pre-existing United Nations
70 body, the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) to develop regional
71 solutions to the illicit trade of SALW with the following goals:

72 (a) Expanding the efforts of UNODA to allow Member States to obtain
73 substantive and organizational support for norm-setting in the area of disarmament with
74 the aim to:

75 (i) Observe international arms trades and give regular reports on the risk and
76 potential for human rights violations involved in specific transactions, to producers,
77 vendors and end-users of SALWs

78 (b) Endorsing regional solutions through the Regional Disarmament Branch

79 (RDB), the operational arm of UNODA at the regional, subregional and Member State
80 levels through existing UN Regional Centers for Peace and Disarmament located in:
81 (i) Latin America and the Caribbean (UNLIREC, located in Lima, Peru);
82 (ii) Asia and the Pacific (UNRCPD, located in Kathmandu, Nepal); and
83 (iii) Africa (UNREC, located in Lomé, Togo);
84 (c) Fostering disarmament measures through dialogue, transparency and
85 confidence-building on military matters, and encouraging regional disarmament efforts;
86 (d) Increasing cohesion between these bodies and Member States to ascertain
87 effective measures particular to the unique circumstance of each Member State;

88
89 3. *Expresses appreciation* to Member States who have implemented the
90 Programme of Action and have taken steps to combat the illicit trade of SALW all its
91 aspects within their own states;

92
93 4. *Promotes* measures to train and support competent officials to target potential
94 loopholes regarding the physical shipment of small arms by:

95 (a) Training international, national, and regional security for arms stockpiles
96 within Member States;

97 (b) Utilizing INTERPOL's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking
98 System database or any other relevant database to develop a more comprehensive
99 tracking system that will solidify production and consumption accountability;

100 (c) Stricter financial punishments for embargo violators;

101 (d) Regulation of licensing in the air, maritime, and ground transportation of small
102 arms and ammunition through the international import certificate (ICC) which monitors
103 contracts between customers, brokers, and suppliers to demobilize and discourage illicit
104 trading;

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106 5. *Stresses* the need for international oversight in line with current financial
107 international law particularly to regulate any illegal activities of arms brokers within
108 conflict areas;

109
110 6. *Recommends* the increased funding for and training of local law enforcement,
111 security and border patrol forces;

112 (a) With the aim of enhancing security and reducing the movement of SALWs and
113 ammunition within their own borders;

114 (b) Increasing salaries for police forces to reduce the profitability of facilitating
115 small arms smuggling and overall corruption;

116 (c) Military and law enforcement advisors from willing Member States to assist
117 other Member States requesting for assistance;

118
119 7. *Advises* Member States to reinforce existing patrols that check the transfer of
120 SALWs both at national borders of Member States by:

121 (a) Creating security checkpoints with cooperation by national security
122 departments and local security authorities to ensure increased vigilance regarding the
123 transportation of arms on major roads and waterways;

124 (b) Reinforcing existing patrol stations to monitor the movement of SALWs;
125 (c) Recommending the establishment of new border patrol stations to enforce
126 national borders and security;
127 (d) Creating regulations for courier services and other non-public transportation
128 companies to regularly check for SALWs;
129 (e) Cooperating with existing United Nations Peacekeeping forces in conflict
130 areas to strengthen national borders;
131
132 8. *Requesting* international assistance to curb the illicit trade of SALWs in less
133 developed countries by:
134 (a) Training law enforcers to use technology, machinery and equipment in dealing
135 with illicit arms control;
136 (b) Sharing appropriate modern technology, instruments, machinery and
137 equipment for arms checking, scanning and recovery in these regions;
138
139 9. *Emphasizes* the importance of regional cooperation in curbing the illicit trade
140 of SALWs by:
141 (a) Encouraging joint sting operations among national law enforcement agencies
142 involving domestic law enforcement to detain transnational arms dealers;
143 (b) Police training and supplying resources for effective policing methods to
144 national police forces of interested Member States;
145 (c) Stressing the importance of the continuation of United Nations Peacekeeping
146 missions in their current, stated role as a policing force in conflict zones;
147
148 10. *Calls upon* United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization
149 to elaborate on programs to raise population awareness regarding the importance of
150 combating illicit arms trade on a global level, focusing in the negative impact of SALW
151 have on state-building, strengthening institutions and economic development.

Passed, Yes: 65 / No: 14 / Abstain: 16