



American Model United Nations

## General Assembly First Committee

GA First/II/7

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 *Expressing* concern about the thousands of men, women, and children that have  
2 died at the hands of gun violence and other illicit arms,

3  
4 *Concerned* by the fact that out of the 122 signatory Member States, only 53 have  
5 ratified the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT),

6  
7 *Reaffirming* that all nations have the right to conduct the legal production and  
8 trade of small arms and light weapons (SALW) as covered under article 2.1 of the United  
9 Nations Charter,

10  
11 *Emphasizing* that many small arms and light weaponry (SALW) enter the black  
12 market due to unsafe storage practices, lack of resources, and small or non-existent  
13 industry,

14  
15 *Guided* by a belief that the needs of the international community are best met by  
16 strengthening the existing framework, rather than by creating a new structure,

17  
18 *Believing* that there is no one solution that will fit all Member States of the United  
19 Nations and that each State experiences different situations according to region,

20  
21 1. *Promotes* the creation of the “Safeguard Initiative” with the aim of reaching the  
22 following goals:

- 23 (a) Implementation and expanded education of safe storage policies;  
24 (b) Eventual reduction of currently existing small arms stockpiles;  
25 (c) Productive measures for decreased civilian fatalities near weapons stockpiles;

26  
27 2. *Suggests* the creation of an advisory board, consisting of existing Non-  
28 Governmental Organizations such as SafeWorld, to evaluate what circumstances may be  
29 preventing the ratification of the ATT;

30  
31 3. *Further* suggests that the above mentioned advisory board help create nation  
32 specific plans for safe weapons storage based upon each nations individual circumstances  
33 including but not limited to the following:

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- 34 (a) Evacuation plans for civilians living near storage facilities;  
35 (b) Safe storage policies for live weapons and ammunition, including explosives;  
36 (c) Security in and around weapons storage facilities;  
37
- 38 4. *Recommends* that Member States develop specific step-by-step plans to reach  
39 the standards of the ATT, including the reduction of small arms stockpiles;  
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- 41 5. *Considers* that many valuable resources, including metals, could be  
42 manufactured through the re-purposing of disassembled SALW, which would benefit the  
43 economic growth of the nations participating in the initiative;  
44
- 45 6. *Requests* that the United Nations Office of Disarmament work with nations that  
46 request the resources and information necessary to reduce their current SALW stockpiles;  
47
- 48 7. *Further Recommends* that the advisory board conduct voluntary yearly  
49 evaluations to measure progress and to further help participating Member States towards  
50 meeting the goals of the Safeguard Initiative and the ATT;  
51
- 52 8. *Encourages* Member States to cooperate within their regional blocks to better  
53 reach the goals of the ATT;  
54
- 55 9. *Affirms* that there is no one solution that fits every Member State, in that each  
56 region experiences different needs and circumstances;  
57
- 58 10. *Emphasizes* that participation in the Safeguard Initiative and the ATT is  
59 voluntary;  
60
- 61 11. *Thanks* all Member States for their continued commitment to ending the illicit  
62 trade of small arms and light weaponry.

Passed, Yes: 65 / No: 14 / Abstain: 30