



American Model United Nations
General Assembly First Committee

GA First/II/1

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 *Recognizing* the increasingly complex and widespread trafficking of illicit small arms and light
2 weapons (SALWs), which continues to undermine global peace efforts, fuel civil conflicts and create
3 long-term instability in affected regions currently suffering from weak governance and economic vul-
4 nerability,

5 *Recalling* the precedence of the 2000 Bamako Declaration, the African Common Position on the
6 Illicit Proliferation, the Circulation and Trafficking of SALWs and the Disarmament, Demobilization and
7 Reintegration strategy,

8 *Acknowledging* the progress made under the 2001 United Nations Programme of Action on Small
9 Arms (UNPoA) and Light Weapons and the International Tracing Instrument (ITI),

10 *Deeply concerned* about the damage and destabilizing effects that armed non-state actors
11 and insurgency groups can have on the legitimate governments of Member States,

12 *Reaffirming* the importance of secure land and maritime points of entry into Member States to
13 effectively combat the networks that proliferate and profit from the illicit arms trade,

14 *Aware of* the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), which established a
15 framework by which all activities in oceans and seas must be carried out,

16 *Deeply disturbed* by the violence caused by terrorist organizations and separatist groups,

17 *Noting* the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG), specifically SDG 5.2, which calls on
18 Member States to proactively work on ending all forms of violence against women and girls, while also
19 recognizing that the proliferation of SALWs disproportionately contributes to gender-based violence in
20 conflict and post-conflict zones,

21 *Taking into account* SDG 16.4 and resolution 77/71 so that we may curb the growing power of
22 non-state actors and limit the devastation that they inflict,

23 *Strongly opposing* the continued sale of SALWs by state actors to malicious non-state groups,

24 1. *Call upon* all Member States to mitigate the actions of violent non-state actors, including
25 terrorist organizations, separatist groups, mercenary organizations and independent militia groups;

26 2. *Invites* the creation of regional bodies similar to the East African Regional Center on small
27 arms, these bodies would be located in Cairo, Lagos and Nairobi, which would coordinate multilateral
28 actions such as:

29 (a) Increasing border and customs cooperation and transparency;

30 (b) Creating regional information databases similar to the ITI and the Illicit Arms Records
31 and Tracing Management Systems related to SALWs;

32 (c) Providing weapons management training;

33 (d) Providing assistance in seizing and destroying illegal firearms, by melting them down,
34 dismantling them or using other means to make them inoperable;

35 3. *Supports* Member States and willing to provide resources and assistance to other Member
36 States actively fighting organized criminal and terrorist entities as well as civilian aid in active conflict;

37 4. *Recommends* continued efforts to address small-arms proliferation stemming from traffick-
38 ing within international waters by:

39 (a) Encouraging State coast guards to target known maritime trafficking networks and
40 regional actors involved in the illicit trade of SALWs;

41 (b) Promoting enhanced communication across State coast guards and naval forces
42 in relation to illegally trafficked firearms;

43 5. *Encourages* Member States to seek to create buy-back programs with the support of the
44 UNPoA, similar to those implemented by Liberia, that will:

45 (a) Foster the use of financial incentives for citizens to surrender any unlicensed weapons
46 to ensure long-term peace in the affected regions;

47 (b) Provide amnesty for those who possess illegal guns as long as they turn them in;

48 (c) Emphasize the need for intervention in post-conflict weapons diversion, stockpile
49 leakage and destruction;

50 6. *Underlines* the necessity of intelligence-sharing mechanisms to identify cross-border crim-
51 inal networks and illicit weapons flows;

52 7. *Supports* the creation of technology-sharing partnerships that enable developing Member
53 States to access advanced scanning equipment, border surveillance drones and improve digital reg-
54 istry systems;

55 8. *Further recommends* that Member States collaborate with UN Women and organizations
56 such as the Small Arms Survey by collecting and adding gender-specific data to all UNPoA national
57 reports to uphold the prior mandates that Member States proactively work to implement legislation in
58 accordance with international norms;

59 9. *Calls upon* all willing and able Member States to partner with UN Women and the United
60 Nations Development Programme to establish regional capacity by:

61 (a) Establishing workshops similar to Southern Africa's Regional Strategic Workshop on
62 gender mainstreaming that train women on early warning systems;

63 (b) Make use of the ITI and UNPoA reporting with the oversight of regional intergovern-
64 mental organisations through annual progress reports, to increase women's upstanding role in disarm-
65 amment and security processes;

66 10. *Considers* the expansion of training programs and Member State workshops coordinated by
67 the United Nations Regional Center for Peace and Disarmament (UNREC), to be implemented in willing
68 and able underdeveloped regions, with respect to State sovereignty, aiming to:

69 (a) Equip Member States with the skills needed to identify the source of manufacturing
70 and track illicit weapons flows;

71 (b) Allow Member States without the resources or personnel to utilize UNREC technical
72 assistance in regions where political stability and government priority are volatile;

73 (c) Help to train State officials on specific smuggling identification tactics, such as iden-
74 tifying document discrepancies, financial irregularities and unreasonable security measures;

75 11. *Advocates for* advances in reaching SDG 16.4 by establishing additional indicators for mon-
76 itoring progress in accordance with the 2001 Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate
77 the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects by::

78 (a) Strengthening the already existing SALWs Fellowship Program approved by resolu-
79 tion 77/71;

80 (b) Reaffirming Member States' commitment to providing and supporting the neces-
81 sary financial allocations through voluntary contributions and UN budget discussions to ensure the
82 program's regular holding and to enhance the capabilities of developing Member States, as desired.

Passed, Yes: 69 / No: 8 / Abstain: 14