
BIENNIAL MEETING OF STATES
TO CONSIDER THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
UN PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS

Statement by H.E. Ambassador John Freeman
Head of the UK Delegation to the Biennial Meeting of States
on behalf of the European Union

THEMATIC DEBATE INTERVENTION

Linkages (terrorism, organised crime, trafficking in drugs and precious minerals)

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Mr Chairman,

1. I have the honour to take the floor on behalf of the European Union. The acceding countries Bulgaria and Romania, the candidate countries Croatia and Turkey, the countries of the Stabilisation and Association Process and potential candidates Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Serbia and Montenegro, the members of the European Economic Area, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein, as well as Moldova and Ukraine, align themselves with this statement.
2. The EU considers that the fight against proliferation of small arms and light weapons should form an integral part of a comprehensive counter terrorism strategy.
3. We thank the UN Secretary-General for the inclusion of a proposal to define terrorism in his report early on this year. A strong political signal from Heads of state and government at the September Summit would be beneficial to swifter progress in agreeing on a legally binding definition of terrorism.