Excellency,

I write further to our productive discussions on “Draft 2” of the prospective outcome document of the Sixth Biennial Meeting of States (BMS6). On the basis of the constructive comments received from delegations, I have further refined the document in line with proposals that have been submitted.

**Prospective Outcome Document**

I am pleased to share “Draft 3” with you today, a PDF version of which is attached. A Microsoft Word version of the document is available on the BMS6 website: [www.un.org/disarmament/bms6/](http://www.un.org/disarmament/bms6/).

I would like to thank States that have submitted working papers, written contributions and edits, which have enabled me to further develop “Draft 3”. Mindful that the draft is still a work in progress, I wish to stress that it is important that we do as much as we can to advance our work on the document prior to BMS6.

**Informal Consultations**

I look forward to receiving your feedback on “Draft 3” during our final, informal consultations on **Thursday, 2nd June at 9:30 am in Conference Room 1**. It is my intention to make the best use of our time during this final round of consultations by focusing discussions on the substantive issues of “Draft 3”.

In particular, I alert delegations who have provided inputs to stand ready to explain their contributions and, where relevant, to re-formulate them. Please note that I will not be seeking final agreement on any paragraph of the draft prior to the commencement of BMS6.

I invite all delegations to submit any edits and comments they may have on “Draft 3” before 4:00 p.m. on **2nd June** to: [conventionalarms-unoda@un.org](mailto:conventionalarms-unoda@un.org). This will allow me and my team to develop one more draft. With this in mind, I therefore propose that we base our work at BMS6 on what will, at that stage, be “Draft 4”.

**Timeline**

For the final days of preparations, my intended schedule is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 2nd June</td>
<td>9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Bureau meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday, 2nd June</td>
<td>9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Informal consultations on “Draft 3”</td>
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Secretary-General’s Report

I am pleased to share with you the attached ‘unedited advance copy’ of the forthcoming Secretary-General’s report on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.

I look forward to seeing you or your representative at the forthcoming consultations.

Please accept, Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

[Signature]

E. Courtenay Rattray
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
of Jamaica to the United Nations

To: All Permanent Representatives and
Permanent Observers to the United Nations
New York
I. Consideration of the implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All its Aspects, at the national level, the regional level – including through regional and subregional arrangements and organizations – and at the global level, and in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

1. Building on the agreed outcome documents of RevCon2 and BMS5; and also taking into account the MGE2 discussions, including the Chair’s Summary.
3. Noting the importance of national laws, regulations and administrative procedures, interagency coordination, and, where they exist, national action plans to the full and effective implementation of the PoA.
4. Noting the increase in the illicit on-line trade in small arms and light weapons, including their parts and components.
5. Underlining the growing importance of brokering activities in the international transfer of small arms and light weapons, and noting the need to establish cost-effective control measures to prevent illicit brokering.
6. Emphasizing the importance of end-use certification to small arms and light weapons export licensing procedures.
7. Highlighting the need to reinforce, as necessary, cross-border cooperation, at both the national and regional levels, in addressing the problem of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects.
8. Recognizing that stockpile management and security is a national prerogative.
9. Noting the importance of adequate stockpile management, including sustainable life-cycle management, for minimizing the risk of diversion (through theft, loss and unauthorized re-export) of small arms and light weapons to illicit markets, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, for preventing accidental explosions and protecting the environment, and for improving the control, storage and registration of small arms and light weapons.
10. Stressing the importance of stockpile management and security, not only to the storage of small arms and light weapons, but also to their transportation, movement and transfer.
11. Noting that small arms and light weapons are frequently stockpiled together with their ammunition, and that inadequate stockpile management remains a concern, due to the risk of their diversion to illicit markets.
12. Recognizing the importance of preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit use of explosive materials, especially materials used for terrorism.
13. Noting the opportunities new technologies can offer for enhanced stockpile management and security.
14. Noting that voluntary national reports on the implementation of the PoA can serve, inter alia, to provide a baseline for measuring progress in PoA implementation; build confidence and promote transparency; provide a basis for information exchange and action at all levels; and serve to identify needs and opportunities for international assistance and cooperation, including the matching of needs with available resources and expertise.
15. Highlighting the utility of exchanging information on standards and practices used by States to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.
16. Welcoming the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 and SDG Targets 16.1 and 16.4.
17. Acknowledging, in line with the 2030 Agenda, that sustainable development cannot be realized without peace and security and that peace and security will be at risk without sustainable development.
18. Noting that the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons has implications for the realization of several SDGs, including those relating to peace, justice and strong institutions, poverty reduction, economic growth, health, gender equality, and safe cities.

19. Underlining the importance of the full and effective implementation of the PoA and ITI for attaining SDG Goal 16 and SDG Target 16.4.


21. Highlighting the utility of SDG Target 16.4 in establishing baselines and measuring progress in national-level implementation of the PoA and ITI, including progress made in the implementation of national action plans, where they exist.

22. Encouraging the development by States of further SDG indicators, based on the PoA and ITI, to complement those agreed by the United Nations Statistical Commission, drawing, as appropriate, on the experiences of other UN processes.

23. Highlighting the UN’s role in peace-building and conflict prevention.

24. Reaffirming the importance of promoting dialogue and a culture of peace through education and public awareness programmes on the problems of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, involving all sectors of society.

25. Noting that the full and effective implementation of the PoA helps to prevent the acquisition of small arms and light weapons by terrorists, thus reducing the potential impact of their attacks.

**Way Forward**

26. To ensure that destroyed and deactivated small arms and light weapons are rendered permanently inoperable such that illicit reactivation is physically impossible.

27. To encourage the utilization of good practices and lessons learnt, including the voluntary use of standardized implementation guidelines.

28. To coordinate, as appropriate, national-level implementation of the PoA with relevant regional and international obligations, and with related issues and processes, including DDR, border controls, organized crime, terrorism, urban crime, relevant Security Council resolutions and related capacity-building initiatives.

29. To strengthen border controls by establishing and enforcing laws, regulations and administrative procedures that effectively combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons across borders.

30. To take into account complementarities and to enhance, as appropriate, national-level coordination on the implementation of the PoA and of relevant subregional, regional and global instruments in which Member States participate, including those that are legally binding.

31. To share, and as necessary implement, best practices in physical stockpile management and security in order to prevent the diversion of small arms and light weapons to the illicit trade, illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients, including in conflict and post-conflict situations.

32. To continually assess national stockpiles for surpluses and to responsibly dispose, preferably through destruction, of small arms and light weapons that no longer meet operational needs.

33. To submit comprehensive national reports on PoA implementation in time for the PoA’s Third Review Conference in 2018.

34. To streamline PoA reporting requirements with reporting under other instruments, including regional ones, and thus minimize administrative reporting burdens.

35. To urge States, in reporting on their implementation of the PoA, to highlight progress made in implementing the relevant goals and targets of the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development.

36. To request the Secretariat, for the Third Review Conference, to conduct an analysis of national PoA and ITI reports in order to, inter alia, identify implementation challenges and opportunities, help strengthen future implementation

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1 E.g. biodiversity, climate change, desertification, sustainable consumption & production, UN Energy, UN Water
efforts, and guide the work of actors that assist with such implementation, including the UN regional centres for peace and disarmament.

37. To establish or strengthen subregional, regional and cross-regional cooperation, coordination and information-sharing mechanisms, including the sharing of best practices, in order to support PoA implementation.

38. To draw, as appropriate, on regional efforts, including those of the UN regional centers, to develop and share best practices and standards for combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

39. To encourage, where relevant, subregional and regional organizations to align the timing of their meetings with the global cycle of meetings, so as to ensure, as appropriate, a maximum of synergies between actions taken at the national, regional and local levels, such as improved efficiency and the enhanced sharing of information and good practices.

40. To encourage cooperation, coordination and information sharing between subregional and regional organizations, specifically with a view to avoiding the duplication of efforts in implementing the PoA.

41. To encourage regional and subregional organizations to identify areas of comparative advantage in tackling the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

42. To strengthen the role of UN regional centers for peace and disarmament in supporting PoA implementation.

43. To develop, as appropriate, assistance proposals in coordination with relevant subregional and regional organizations.

44. To encourage meetings of national points of contacts in order to strengthen coordination and the exchange of information and best practices between States, including at the subregional and regional levels.

45. To identify opportunities for the strengthened measurement of progress in the implementation of the PoA.

46. To strengthen, as appropriate, the contribution of civil society, and of industry, to the implementation of the PoA.

47. To explore how governments, through their national reports under the PoA and ITI, with the assistance of the UN, can support data collection for relevant SDG indicators.

48. In implementing the PoA and ITI in light of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, to encourage the establishment and strengthening of cooperation and partnerships at all levels among governments, international and intergovernmental organizations, and civil society.

49. To enhance cooperation with the World Customs Organization (WCO) on WCO-led enforcement operations as they relate to small arms and light weapons.

50. To enhance cooperation with WCO and INTERPOL, as well as other relevant organizations, in order to identify and act against groups and individuals involved in the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including illegal armed groups, terrorists and other unauthorized recipients.

51. To encourage UN peacekeeping missions, in line with their mandates and capacities, and in close coordination with host States, to play an enhanced role in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including in the area of arms embargo monitoring.

52. To take account, in post-conflict reconstruction programmes, of the problems and consequences of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, including through peace-building, DDR and SSR.

53. To take account, in post-conflict settings, of the needs of affected States for assistance in implementing the PoA and ITI.

54. To take account, in small arms and light weapons policy and programming, of the differing impacts of illicit small arms and light weapons on women, men, girls and boys.

55. To ensure effective gender mainstreaming in policies and programmes designed to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

56. To promote the meaningful participation and representation of women in PoA-related policy-making, planning and implementation processes, including their participation in national small arms commissions and in programmes relating to community safety and conflict resolution, taking into account General Assembly resolution 65/69 on women, disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control and subsequent resolutions on that question, as well as Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and follow-up resolutions, including Security Council Resolution 2242 (2015).
57. To encourage the collection of disaggregated data on gender and small arms and light weapons.
58. To seriously consider increasing funding for gender-sensitive programming designed to combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.
59. To take account, in implementing the PoA and ITI, of synergies with UN counter-terrorism mechanisms.
60. To enhance international cooperation in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons linked to drug trafficking, transnational organized crime and terrorism.

II. Consideration of the implementation of the International Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons, including recent developments in small arms and light weapons technology and their implications for the International Tracing Instrument

61. Recognizing the importance of developing or establishing strict national regulatory frameworks for the marking, recording and tracing of small arms and light weapons, including for purposes of enhancing control over legal transfers and exchanging information on such transfers.
62. Recognizing the importance of marking and record-keeping for the management and security of small arms stockpiles, including inventory management and accounting control.
63. Encouraging States Parties to the Firearms Protocol to integrate the requirements of the Firearms Protocol in their implementation of the ITI.
64. Noting the complementary role that the exchange of ballistics information and the use of ballistics databases, including the provision of technical and financial assistance for the purpose of strengthening national capacities, can play in relation to the tracing of illicit small arms and light weapons in the context of criminal investigations.
65. Policy implications for marking as a result of the use of new materials in small arms manufacture.
66. Policy implications for marking, record-keeping and tracing as a result of the development of modular weapons and toy guns that could be converted into real guns.
67. Policy implications of 3D-printed small arms, including the problem of illicit manufacturing, for the implementation of the PoA and ITI.
68. Noting that the tracing of small arms and light weapons in conflict and post-conflict situations can support broader conflict prevention, crisis management and peacebuilding policies and programmes.
69. Highlighting the utility of conflict tracing in combating the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including illicit brokering, by helping to prevent the diversion of legally transferred small arms and light weapons.
70. Noting that the effective tracing of small arms and light weapons can serve to strengthen measures that combat the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

**Way Forward**

71. To continue to mark, record and trace small arms and light weapons in accordance with the provisions of the International Tracing Instrument, including those relating to marking at the time of manufacturing and import.
72. To encourage those States and international and regional organizations in a position to do so to provide technical assistance for the development of marking, record-keeping and tracing systems that support implementation of the ITI.
73. To enhance dialogue with industry, especially regarding the effective marking of small arms and light weapons, in light of recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design.
74. To increase assistance to developing countries in order to bridge the technological divide between States in small arms and light weapons marking, record-keeping and tracing systems.
75. To consider the implications for the ITI of recent developments in small arms and light weapons manufacturing, technology and design as an input to the PoA’s Third Review Conference in 2018.
76. To engage with the WCO on the issue of 3D printing as it relates to customs administration and border control.
77. As necessary, upon request, to assist States and relevant bodies, organs and missions of the United Nations, as well as relevant regional organizations, to build capacity for the tracing of small arms and light weapons in conflict and post-conflict situations.
78. In accordance with the provisions of the ITI, to strengthen the tracing of small arms and light weapons in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through the provision of capacity-building assistance, for purposes of identifying and containing the flow of weapons into such zones, providing early warning of destabilizing weapons flows and preventing conflict, including through the voluntary use of tools such as INTERPOL’s iARMS system and the iTrace database developed by Conflict Armament Research.
79. To encourage Member States, relevant United Nations entities, intergovernmental, regional and subregional organizations, in a position to do so and where appropriate, to cooperate and share information relevant to the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation or misuse of small arms and light weapons with potentially affected States and with relevant United Nations entities, including experts groups assisting sanctions committees and peacekeeping operations.
80. To enhance the exchange of tracing results between appropriate authorities at the national, regional and global levels in conformity with the provisions of the ITI, in order to prevent the diversion of small arms and light weapons.
81. To make full use of information on illicit trade routes and diversion methods, revealed by tracing, in order to strengthen PoA implementation.
82. To enhance cooperation with INTERPOL in identifying and tracing diverted small arms and light weapons.
83. In accordance with the provisions of the ITI, to share and analyse information relating to the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in order to identify trends and patterns.
84. To strengthen the exchange and use of information on the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, as well as diversion, including through the use of web-based databases, such as those of INTERPOL (iARMs\(^2\) and IBIN\(^3\) databases) and Conflict Armament Research (iTrace).\(^4\)

III. Consideration of international cooperation and assistance for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and International Tracing Instrument, including capacity-building:

a) Ways to strengthen the implementation of the PoA and ITI through the provision of training, equipment and the transfer of technology

85. Underlining the importance of sustainable outcomes and impacts when designing and implementing cooperation and assistance programmes and, for this purpose, ensuring these programmes have national ownership, and providing for the training of managers and leaders and the establishment of personnel career structures that retain, sustain and strengthen knowledge and skills.
86. Noting the importance of staff training, adequate infrastructure and equipment, maintenance, inventory management and record keeping to the management and security of small arms and light weapons stockpiles.
87. Stressing the importance of the transfer of technology and equipment, and the accompanying need for measures, such as capacity building, to maintain transferred equipment.

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\(^3\) [http://www.interpol.int/Content/areas/Firearms/INTERPOL-Ballistic-Information-Network-iBIN](http://www.interpol.int/Content/areas/Firearms/INTERPOL-Ballistic-Information-Network-iBIN)
\(^4\) [www.conflictarm.com/trace/](http://www.conflictarm.com/trace/)
b) Ways to ensure the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of assistance for the implementation of the PoA and the ITI, including financial and technical assistance

88. Emphasizing that international cooperation and assistance remain essential to the full and effective implementation of the PoA and ITI.

89. Noting that national reports can be used to identify assistance needs and match them with available resources and expertise.

90. Emphasizing that assistance programmes should aim at building sustainable capacity in the recipient country by, inter alia, identifying potential barriers to sustainability at the design phase, along with opportunities for complementary programming that can mitigate these barriers.

91. Noting that the Group of States Interested in Practical Disarmament Measures can serve as a forum for matching needs and resources (A/RES/69/60).

92. Noting the opportunity for synergies between projects designed to support implementation of the PoA and ITI and SDG-related projects.

93. Noting the need to regularly update, where they exist, national action plans in order to reflect, inter alia, progress made in PoA and ITI implementation.

94. Acknowledging the need for financial and technical assistance in support of PoA and ITI implementation, also in light of related SDG commitments.

Way Forward

95. To explore options for building sustainable capacity for the life-cycle management of small arms and light weapons stockpiles (normative frameworks, structures and procedures, training, personnel management, financing and infrastructure).

96. To take into account, when designing small arms assistance programmes, other related programmes with a view to avoiding duplication, maximizing coordination and complementarity, and enhancing the effectiveness of assistance programmes.

97. To build capacity for enhanced cross-border information exchange and cooperation for the purpose of combating the illicit cross-border trade in small arms and light weapons.

98. To build capacity for small arms and light weapons identification, tracing and control in conflict and post-conflict situations, including through training for risk management, targeting and enforcement.

99. To identify synergies between assistance aimed at supporting small arms marking, record-keeping and tracing and that aimed at strengthening the management and security of small arms and light weapons stockpiles.

100. To increase national capacity to take account of diversion risks when assessing applications for small arms and light weapons-export authorizations, and to put in place adequate laws, regulations and administrative procedures to ensure effective control over the export and transit of small arms and light weapons, including the use of authenticated end-use certificates and effective legal and enforcement measures.

101. To build capacity to report on small arms and light weapons that have been seized and which have been recorded and traced.

102. To build capacity for sustainable life-cycle management of small arms and light weapons stockpiles, including associated equipment and maintenance needs.

103. To ensure the suitability and sustainability of technology and equipment before its transfer.

104. To urge States in a position to do so to provide developing countries, upon request, with critical technology and equipment and related training and maintenance, essential to the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

105. To improve coordination among donors and between donors and recipients, as well as within countries.
106. To ensure national ownership of international assistance projects by, inter alia, involving national authorities in the project planning and implementation cycle and tailoring assistance to local structures and procedures.

107. To increase the sustainability of international assistance through the allocation by the recipient country of financial, administrative and other resources, bearing in mind the different situations, capacities and priorities of States and regions.

108. To identify, prioritize and communicate assistance needs, and to develop specific project proposals to that end.

109. To enhance the effectiveness of assistance frameworks by, inter alia, strengthening measurability, evaluation, and coordination.

110. To encourage the sharing of information on assistance projects, including lessons learnt and best practices.

111. To consider the adequacy of existing structures, including:

   a) The region-specific trust funds of the UN regional centres on peace and disarmament.
   b) The UN Trust Facility Supporting Conventional Arms Regulation (UNSCAR).
   c) Funds by other parts of the UN system that contribute to PoA implementation, including OCHA, UNDP, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNMAS, UNODC, UN WOMEN.

112. To request the Secretariat:

   a) To present, for consideration at the Third Review Conference, options for the enhanced funding of activities relating to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, including trust fund arrangements; and for the establishment of programmes for the training of relevant officials, nominated by their respective Governments, in areas related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument;
   b) To carry out a comprehensive study on the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of financial and technical assistance, including the transfer of technology and equipment, particularly to developing countries, since 2001, for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action, and to submit this study to the Third Review Conference;
   c) To continue to collaborate with relevant research and training institutions, particularly those from developing countries, on activities addressing the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons, including the sharing of rosters of experts, including experts from developing countries, where relevant;
   d) To include among the globally available web-based resources it provides, relevant information, such as studies, publications and other resources, related to the implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

IV. Other issues and topics of relevance for the effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument