



United Nations Second Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the UN Programme of Action New York, July 13, 2005

Statement by Thomas Mason Safari Club International

"Listening to the Hunting and Sport Shooting Community"

by Thomas Mason, WFSA Secretariat

Thank you Mr. Chairman. You have heard several presentations from the hunting and shooting community. I should like to summarize them by restating several particular points which we hope will be reflected in your conclusions for this meeting.

First, we would ask that in your conclusions, there be an acknowledgment of the legitimacy of the roles of hunting sport shooting and legal firearms ownership. Mr. Chairman, those hundreds of millions of citizens through out the world are legitimate stakeholder in this process.

Second, we would ask that there be a mention of the efforts relating to firearms safety.

Third Mr. Chairman, if there is reference to brokering in your conclusions, we would hope there would be mention of the need to involve the import-export community with any future group of government experts.

Finally Mr. Chairman, we would hope that there is a recommendation that cooperation between governments and NGOs, under the Programme of Action, be as broad as possible and include NGOs from the hunting and shooting community. Thank you Mr. Chairman.

The WFSA is an NGO in Roster Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.

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