

**WFSA**

The World Forum  
on the Future of  
Sport Shooting Activities

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

Statement by C. Edward Rowe,  
Chairman, Manufacturers Advisory Group

**“Definition, Marking and Ammunition”**

Mr. Chairman:

I am Ted Rowe, Chairman of the Manufacturers Advisory Group to the World Forum on Sport Shooting Activities.

It is my pleasure to speak to you today concerning our efforts towards the Marking and Tracing of Small Arms as they pertain to firearms that are strictly military arms used as weapons of war. We distinguish these fully automatic firearms from those firearms that are commonly owned and used by citizens throughout the world for hunting and sport shooting.

I would like to commend the delegations of Japan and China and the members of the European Union as well as others for their efforts in defining small arms as those “manufactured to military specifications for use as a lethal weapon of war”.

Small Arms should be defined as fully automatic firearms for use as weapons of war. We hope that the delegates will continue their efforts in defining Small Arms and will reach consensus on a definition of Small Arms as being those firearms capable of fully automatic fire as weapons of war.

We believe that all Small Arms should be marked and have sponsored several workshops to that effect. Small Arms should have unique serial numbers marked on the frame or receiver. Manufacturer’s name and place should also be marked on each. Marking and record keeping requirements should be the prerogative of the individual states and consistent with their respective legal and administrative systems.

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*The WFSA is an NGO in Roster Consultative Status with the  
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Marking of Small Arms on import would seem to be redundant, if in fact, the system of marking and record keeping at the time of manufacture is properly administered. The requirements of export licenses, import certificates and end-user certificates would enable adequate tracing without the need for duplicate records and marking on import.

As to marking and tracing of ammunition, we believe that it is ill-timed and ill-conceived. Ammunition was not included in the mandate of the Program of Action in the first instance and should not be included now.

I would again like to offer the services of the Manufacturers Advisory Group in both technical and administrative matters.

I thank the Chair for the time allowed.

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