

نماینده‌گی دایمی جمهوری اسلامی افغانستان در
سازمان ملل متحد - نیویارک



په ملگرو ملتوکی دافغانستان داسلامی
جمهوریت دایمی نمایندگی- نیویارک

*Permanent Mission of the Islamic
Republic of Afghanistan to the
United Nations – New York*

5 March 2014

Excellency,

As Chair-designate of the Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider 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 (BMS5), I have recently held fruitful open consultations in Geneva with representatives from civil society organizations, academia, and Member States on BMS5 and its agreed provisional agenda.

Zero draft

In line with my previous announcement, and with the assistance of Mr. Wolfgang Bindseil – our Moderator for the International Tracing Instrument – I have prepared a “zero draft” outcome document for BMS5 (attached).

Rationale of the “zero draft”

As I have mentioned during previous informal consultations, the “zero draft” is a very initial and informal paper, and is wholly based on inputs from Member States from consultations, reports, working papers, and past outcome documents.

During our previous discussions, States have indicated a preference for a short, action-oriented outcome document, which builds on the successful 2012 Review Conference. Therefore, the “zero draft” is meant to provide the framework for the outcome of BMS5 by combining reference to the follow-up of the 2012 Review Conference with the agreed provisional agenda items.

The division of substantive points in a descriptive part and a “Way Forward” section continues past practice as well.

I have been encouraging Member States to submit working papers on any of the topics under consideration. I would like to thank the delegations which have already done so or who have announced they will submit working papers, as they are instrumental to the production of a meaningful, consensual document.

Next consultations

I count on your active participation in the next open, informal consultations at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, on Wednesday, 12 March 2014, **3:00 pm in the ECOSOC Chamber.**

These consultations will be an opportunity to have an in-depth discussion on the zero draft. I welcome your contributions and input in this regard, keeping in mind that the zero draft will

need further streamlining in the months ahead. It will be in the interest of all if you would come to the meeting prepared to be explicit on these matters.

In line with standing practice, this informal meeting will be conducted in English only.

Finally, I would like to thank States that have already submitted their national reports on the implementation of the Programme of Action, and encourage those who have not done so yet to submit their reports as soon as possible. You can access the online reporting tool at www.poa-iss.org/reporting.

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

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Zahir Tanin', followed by a long, horizontal, wavy flourish.

Zahir Tanin
Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Afghanistan
to the United Nations

BMS5 outcome | Zero Draft

I. Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects:

a) Stockpile management including physical security measures.

Proposed topics include:

- Stockpile safety;
- Stockpile diversion;
- Physical security and stockpile management needs in (post-)conflict situations;
- Role of women in stockpile management;
- Comprehensive approach to weapons and ammunition management;
- Establishment of indicators and benchmarks;
- Use of technology for improved stockpile management;
- Life-cycle management;
- Establishment of agreed guidelines or standards for stockpile management;
- Integrating stockpile management into peacekeeping mandates;
- Regional cooperation for surplus destruction/disposal;
- Recent developments in standards and best practices;
- Limitation of the supply of SALW only to Governments or to entities duly authorized by Governments;
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A. Consideration of implementation

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B. The Way Forward

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II. International Tracing Instrument to Enable States to Identify and Trace, in a Timely and Reliable Manner, Illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons

Proposed topics include:

- Enhanced exchange of tracing information (intra-/interstate);
- Recent developments in small arms manufacturing, technology and design;
- Tracing in conflict and post-conflict situations;
- The role of peace support and other relevant missions in weapons tracing;
- Monitoring of arms embargos;
- Border cooperation;
- Import marking;
- Establishment of national points of contact;
- Capacity-building for marking, recordkeeping and tracing;
- Use of iARMS (INTERPOL) in implementing the ITI;
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A. Consideration of implementation

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B. The Way Forward

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III. International Cooperation and Assistance for full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, including:

- a) Capacity building, including training;**
- b) Transfer of technology and equipment.**

Proposed topics include:

- Utilization of national reports to share information, including on the provision of technical, financial and other assistance;
- Review of existing programmes for technology transfer;
- Survey of the current state, suitability and affordability of technology;
- Lessons learnt from the transfer of technology and provision of equipment in other multilateral processes;
- Institutional capacity building;
- Priority setting;
- Distinguishing the needs of men, women, boys, girls, and the elderly;
- Matching needs with resources;
- New initiatives to strengthen international cooperation and assistance, including improved trust fund arrangements;
- Evaluating the effectiveness of assistance measures;
- UN Trust Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR);
- The role of women in international cooperation and assistance for PoA and ITI implementation;
- Establishment of a fellowship programme on SALW for developing countries;
- Sustainable transfer to developing countries, upon request, of related technology and equipment;
- Channelling to developing countries, upon request of critical equipment, such as mobile X-ray gates, body scanners and advanced radar systems for border control;
- Comprehensive study by the UN on the adequacy, effectiveness and sustainability of financial and technical assistance, including the transfer of technology and equipment to developing countries since 2001;
- Meeting of Governmental Experts in 2015 to consider issues related to transfer of technology and equipment, as well as capacity building;
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A. Consideration of implementation

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B. The Way Forward

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IV. Follow-up to the Second Review Conference

- Schedule of meetings for 2012-2018;
- Regional meetings;
- Engagement of civil society;
- National reporting;
- Support for meeting participation;
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V. Other Issues

- Border controls;
- Illicit arms brokering;
- Relationship of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument with other initiatives and instruments;
- Promoting a culture of peace;
- Mechanism for the analysis of national reports;
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