Forum: GA1

Question of: Increasing transparency in the trade of armaments to and within regions of conflict

Submitted by: Russian Federation, New Zealand, Peru, DPRK, UNDP, Libya, Syria

Co-submitted by: China, Norway, Indonesia, Belize, Oman, Nepal, Estonia, USA, DR Congo, Belgium, Angola, Chad, Paraguay, UAE, Gabon, Algeria, Congo

*Taking into account* that illegal arm trades account for 10-20% of the Global Arms Trade,

*Alarmed* by the fact that weaponry used by Islamic State of Iraq and Levant (ISIL) originates from at least 25 different countries,

*Further recognizing* The United Nations Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) as one of the main contributors to regulations regarding the arms trade,

*Bearing in mind* that as a result of the lack of strict regulations in the arms trade, a significant amount of weapons are lost track of and end up in the hands of terrorist and insurgent organizations,

*Recalling* the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) as a multilateral treaty that regulates the international trade in conventional weapons adopted by the United Nations on April 2 2013 and ratified by 83 States,

*Noting with regret* that each State maintains the power to determine how the treaty will be implemented within its borders according to the ATT, thus the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) is unable to fully implement the global Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) on an international scale,

*Keeping in mind* that the supplying and funding of terrorist organizations is punishable by international law,

*Noting* that over 470,000 Syrian people have been killed, and over 11 million have fled Syria in the current Syrian conflict since 2011,

*Deeply disturbed* by the fact that many arms producers do not print legitimate serial numbers on their weapons to avoid authorities tracing them, and many weapons used in conflict zones have their serial numbers scratched out to hide their source,

1. Encourages the creation of an “On-site” wing under the UNODA, whose responsibilities shall include:

a. Designating one arms-trade outpost every 1000 square kilometres around designated borders of conflict zones, staffed with armed soldiers from the country of the outpost in question, wherein:

i. All Member States involved in regional arms-trade must conduct arms-trade in compliance with the ATT,

ii. The UN soldiers will inspect all batches of weapons to verify that they are being legally traded,

iii. Any indication of nonconformity by any State will be immediately reported to the United Nations Armament Control Board (UNACB),

b. Conducting inspections in suspicious weapon manufacturing factories across all arms-producing Member States to ensure that they are being legitimately traded,

c. Ensuring that all arms-trade is taking place at designated UNODA outposts using means such as but not limited to:

* + 1. Deploying squads of soldiers of the Member State in which the outpost is based, from UNODA outposts to investigate, and possibly shut down, any unaffiliated arms-trade posts,
    2. Collecting relevant feedback from the military of the State,
    3. The setting up of an experienced task force responsible for finding and acquiring illegal arms trading sites in collaboration with the local army;

2) Requests all Member States to attend a yearly United Nations arms-trade convention where:

* 1. If any Member States wish to propose a new arms-trade deal, they are required to submit it to a review board, which consists of members of UNODA,
  2. The review board will review the deal’s terms and conditions, and present the deal to the assembled Member States,
  3. The other Member States will vote upon whether the trade in question should be allowed or not, and:
     1. If the majority votes in favour, then the arms-trade deal can be carried out legally at all UNODA arms-trade outposts across the conflict zone,
     2. If the majority votes ‘no’, then the review board will carry out further investigation into the reasons why the trade should not be allowed, and will ultimately have the power to allow the trade or not,
     3. If the Member State still proceeds with the trade even after the review board votes ‘no’, then it will be considered a violation of international law and the matter will be referred to the Security Council and the International Court of Justice to consider sanctions (compliant with clause 6),
  4. The same voting procedure will be implemented on existing arms-trade deals if any Member State believes that they should be revised;

3) Urges the foundation of the United Nations Armaments Control Board (UNACB), a new closed but amenable medium over which legal armaments can be bought and sold, and orders for armaments can be placed by Member States, which shall function based on the following premises:

* 1. Arms sold via the UNACB will only interact with organisations which the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) deems reputable buyers and sellers, be the States, organisations, companies or individuals,
  2. The UNACB will be run under the strict dual control of the Security Council and the UNODA,
  3. The UNACB will guarantee the perfect condition of the commodities being shipped and it will guarantee the best price on the market from sellers, hence rendering all other methods of purchase irrelevant to Member States,
  4. The Security Council may consider sanctions defined in clause 6 against Member States which refuse to join,
  5. The UNACB will prosecute any State, organisation or individual found to be selling armaments of any description to terrorist, extremists or other groups deemed dangerous by the Security Council, by means such as but not limited to:
     1. Filing cases to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against any States or organisations proven to be conducting illicit arms trade,
     2. Filing cases to the International Criminal Court (ICC) against any individuals proven to be conducting illicit arms trade,
  6. The UNACB should be outfitted with a professional team of at least 15 and not more than 25 investigators, drawn from Member States in the same method by which the International Court of Justice draws its judges, in order to investigate any claims of illegal arms trading activity and to ensure that there is a fair spread of opinion within the organisation;

4) Encourages all Members States to avoid providing support to any paramilitary organizations not affiliated or in partnership with governments recognised by the UN, since it increases the probability of such supplies falling into possession of terrorist organizations - the support not to be provided shall include:

a) Financial assistance of any form,

b) All measures of armament of any form,

c) Military personnel of any form,

d) Classified intelligence related to national or international security of any form;

5) Calls upon all Member States with concerns on signing the Arms Trade Treaty to send representatives to the UNODA, in order to discuss how their concerns can be abrogated by amendments to the treaty, in order to have more States accede to and ratify the treaty so as to increase its effectiveness;

6) Further encourages that in the case of a violation in Clauses 2 and 3 there will be no economic sanctions to the country in question, but instead the UNODA can penalize the country by means such as but not limited to:

* 1. Arms trade ban to a degree that will be determined by investigation of the review board mentioned in Clause 2 Sub-clause a,
  2. Enforcing a quarterly report on production and manufacturing of military weapons from the Member State in question, if not done so the Member State can be sanctioned by means such as but not limited to:
     1. Cease of all Military goods production,
     2. Restriction of the number of military soldiers and weaponry in possession;

7) Further urges that all arms-manufacturers in all Member States must:

a. Embed the weapon’s serial number at least 2mm deep into the body as to prevent people from scratching out the number,

b. Be checked and approved by on-site UNODA officers, as defined in Clause 1 Sub-clause b, to confirm that they are manufacturing weapons compliant with international law;

8) Wishes to remain actively seized upon the matter.