

Thematic debate on “Post Shipment Control” (to start at PrepMeet 1)

Introduction

A wide range of measures can be implemented to ensure that the end-user’s assurances in arms trade will be adhered to and to prevent the diversion of the arms supplied. These measures are considered to be an instrument of good-faith cooperation in the field of export control. These measures include various forms of controls or checks *post-shipment*: formal assurances by the importing state, reporting requirements on the export, regular screening of reports of possible diversion incidents (including via information exchanges within the ATT), audits of the exporting entities by the competent authorities of the exporting state, as well as mechanisms that allow an exporting state to inspect the supplied military items itself *on-site*.

Within the framework of CSP8 and for the purpose of discussions, the term „post-shipment control“ (PSC) will primarily be used to describe the physical on-site inspection of the respective item by the exporting state after it has been delivered to the final end-user.

Relevance for the ATT

Identifying and preventing cases of diversion and reducing the likelihood of unauthorized re-exports is at the core of this rationale. In this regard, PSCs are a joint demonstration and commitment against diversion of both – the importing and the exporting state. The aim is to provide further information on such end-user controls for importing and exporting states and to offer effective practice recommendations for other states interested in introducing PSCs.

Proposed work

On the occasion of the preparatory conferences for CSP8, Germany, **supported by Switzerland**, will offer two workshops on PSCs. The results of the workshops will form the basis for a paper summarizing the discussions and proposing further steps. This paper will be presented at CSP8 during the thematic discussions. The workshops shall touch upon the following issues, without being limited to them:

- Motivation for the introduction of post-shipment-controls
- Different solutions regarding the introduction of post-shipment controls focusing on on-site visits (e.g. legal requirements and preconditions, coordination with the end-user)
- Operational challenges (human resources, safety and security, involved authorities, reporting)
- Perspective and potential concerns of the importing state
- Brainstorming on foreign policy and economic aspects.

The first workshop will be held on 15 February starting at 16.15 hrs. We offer this first workshop to ATT States Parties to allow for an initial exchange on PSCs as such and possible next steps in the run-up to CSP8. The second workshop is scheduled for the second preparatory week in April in a format that will be determined in due course. The second workshop will be open to States Parties and to the civil society.

Agenda

Workshop for States Parties' representatives on the occasion of PrepMeet 1, 15 February 2022

Hosted as a video conference by Germany, supported by Switzerland

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| 16:15 – 16:30 | Welcome address by Ambassador Mr. Thomas GÖBEL |
| 16:30 – 17:00 | Post-Shipment Controls, definition, scope, procedures |
| 17:00 – 17:20 | Motivation for the introduction of post-shipment-controls by the exporting states, cooperation and communication with the importing states |
| 17:20 – 17:40 | Perspective of the importing states, coordination with the end-users and with the exporting states |
| 17:40 – 17:45 | Way forward to the 2 nd workshop, closing remarks |