The Role of Industry in Responsible International Transfers of Conventional Arms

The ROK’s Approach on Engaging Industry in Arms Trade

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Importance of Engaging Industry

❖ Changes in Arms Trade Trends

- Diversification of arms production bases: exporting finished products + local production
- Concerns of exported materials being misused, not fully controlled by exporting country
- Role of industry for self-compliance with ATT norms being increasingly significant

❖ Consideration of Industry’s Interests

- Countries expanding national export control → companies’ burden increasing
- Need to consider industry’s interests and its predictability on government’s regulative measures
- Inducing industry’s compliance and reflecting industry’s interests on international norms both being important
2 Approaches to Engage Industry

Overview

1. Enhancing Continuous Communication
2. Providing Guidelines
Support the Industry for Compliance through Frequent Outreach

- **DAPA** (Defense Acquisition Program Administration)
  - Expert Training Sessions for defense production companies, etc
  - Help them improve their own screening & control capabilities
  - Cases of non-fulfillment of relevant procedural obligations decreased

- **MOFA** (Ministry of Foreign Affairs)
  - Meetings with relevant companies, consultations in both official/unofficial ways, etc
  - Companies getting less uncertainty on the int’l security & export control trend

- Engaging the industry to participate in ATT meetings
  - ROK has invited a member of a private defense company in its delegation for the 9th CSP

- WGETI Reconfiguration: Industry’s on-the-ground experiences in arms trade getting more significance
Approach (2) Providing Guidelines

- Help the Industry to ‘Voluntarily’ Comply with Norms, based on Guidelines
  - ‘International Peace and Security, Human Rights...’ → Difficult for companies to judge on their own
    – Need to clarify ATT controlled items & obligations in detail, for everyone to refer to
      * As some companies pointed out in the Brainstorming Workshop in 2023.1
  - Reflecting ATT regulations in national guidelines
      * ROK Working-Level Meeting with defense industry & related agencies in 2022.12
  - Might not be easy to make uniform guidelines among different states parties,
  - But creating national implementation guidelines by appropriately reflecting the ATT contents to suit domestic circumstances → Increase the industry’s predictability and reduce business risks & administrative costs
Conclusion: Expected Effects

- **Expected Effects**
  - For States & International Community
    - Multilateral export control / nonproliferation system will be firmly safeguarded
    - International peace and security, Human rights will be strengthened
  - For Industry
    - Strengthen reputation and stability in business
  - ‘Re-engaging’ of the industry → Springboard for future participation by various stakeholders in the ATT
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Q & A