Facilitating Information Exchange and Treaty Implementation via the ATT Website

Submitted by Japan
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1. Background
With nearly one hundred States Parties joining the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), effective information exchange holds the key to enhancing its implementation. The importance of sharing information is also acknowledged in the Treaty as below.

Article 11 (5) ...States Parties are encouraged to share relevant information with one another on effective measures to address diversion.

Article 13 (2) States Parties are encouraged to report to other States Parties, through the Secretariat, information on measures taken that have been proven effective in addressing the diversion of transferred conventional arms covered under Article 2 (1).

Article 15 (7) States Parties are encouraged to exchange experience and information on lessons learned in relation to any aspect of this Treaty.


23. The Conference... decided to:
  f. Mandate the Treaty Secretariat to establish and maintain a database of States Parties’ national points of contact, referred to in Article 5 (6) of the Treaty, for the purpose of information exchange on matters related to the implementation of the Treaty and to make it available to States Parties on the restricted section of the ATT website, as a first step to facilitate such information exchange, including to address the prevention of diversion of conventional arms covered under Article 2 (1) of the Treaty to the illicit market.
2. Proposal
Based on the above provisions and mandate, Japan proposes adding the following information on the ATT website, which is currently under reconstruction by the Secretariat.

(1) List of national points of contact (PoC) of States Parties on the restricted section of the website with their names, positions, organizations, and email addresses that can be clicked to generate a new email window.

(2) Elements 1) to 6) below as proposed in Japan’s working paper “Addressing Diversion of Conventional Arms” to be submitted to the late May 2018 meeting of the Working Group on Effective Treaty Implementation, with a top page comprising the link to each element and its brief description.

1) States Parties’ best practices in addressing diversion
2) Entity lists and previous cases of diversion, illicit transfers, international trafficking routes, methods, and entities involved
3) Checklist with “suggested indicators to assess the risk of diversion” from ATT Implementation Toolkit, Module 10 – Preventing Diversion published by the UN Office of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA)
4) Databases on:
   - National export control systems
   - National legislation to prevent, investigate, and prosecute diversion
   - Weapons transportation providers
   - INTERPOL Illicit Arms Records and Tracing Management System (iARMS)
5) Links to relevant information such as:
   - International Tracing Instrument
   - Firearms Protocol
   - International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS)
6) Notification system on national authorizations and denials of export, import, transit, and trans-shipment licenses; end-user certificates data (on the restricted section of the website)

(3) Links to useful websites for implementing and reporting under the Treaty, such as those of the UNODA, UN Report on Military Expenditures, UN Register of Conventional Arms, UN Program of Action, etc., which would help to compare and analyze specific data in the reports.

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