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

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

Schedule of meetings 2012–2018

1. Member States, having gathered at the Second Review Conference to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, that took place in New York from 27 August to 7 September 2012;

2. Reaffirming the importance of enhancing the coherence and continuity of the Programme of Action implementation process;

3. Also reaffirming, in this regard, the utility of standardizing the schedule of meetings to the fullest extent possible;

4. Recalling the recommendation to clearly define and distinguish the mandates of Programme of Action meetings, as well as to link and ensure the complementarity of meeting mandates and outcomes,1 such as those of the review conferences, biennial meetings of States, and the open-ended meeting of governmental experts;

5. Also recalling that the Second Review Conference is expected to consider the possibility of convening a further open-ended meeting of governmental experts;2

6. Reiterating that States have agreed to review the implementation and future development of the International Tracing Instrument within the framework of conferences that review the United Nations Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;3

Schedule of meetings

7. Decide to hold, in accordance with the relevant provision of the Programme of Action, a one-week biennial meeting of States in 2014 and 2016;

[8. Placeholder on:
   - Possible scheduling of a one-week open-ended meeting of governmental experts, between biennial meetings of States;
   - Possible modification of biennial meeting(s) of States into biennial meeting(s) of States for governmental experts;

1 A/CONF.192/BMS/2010/3 paras.34, 48
3 A/60/88 and Corr. 2, annex, para 38
- Possible scheduling of a technical committee meeting, as suggested by some States;
- Possible scheduling of a two-week review conference in 2018,\(^4\) preceded by a one-week preparatory committee meeting

9. Stress that international cooperation and assistance including capacity building and the transfer of technology, is of critical importance in furthering the implementation of the Programme of Action, and therefore decide that this topic should be an integral element of all meetings under the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

[10. Placeholder on:
- which topics to be addressed at which meeting]

**Regional meetings**

11. Emphasize the importance of regional approaches to the implementation of the Programme of Action, and in this regard, further encourage interested States and international and regional organizations to convene regional meetings in preparation for, and/or to follow up on, the meetings on the Programme of Action.\(^5\)

12. At the regional level to consider, where relevant, to align regional agendas regarding small arms and light weapons with the global cycle of meetings, so as to ensure a maximum of synergies between actions taken at the national, regional, and global levels.

**National reporting**

13. Reaffirm the utility of synchronizing national reporting with biennial meetings of States and review conferences, as a means to increase the number and quality of reports, as well as to contribute substantively to the discussion at the meetings.\(^6\)

**Support for meeting participation**

14. Encourage States in a position to do so, with a view to promoting wider and more equitable participation of States in the meetings on the Programme of Action, to provide financial assistance, through a voluntary sponsorship fund where appropriate, to enable States that are otherwise unable to do so to participate in meetings of the Programme of Action.\(^7\)

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\(^4\) Indirect reference in A/CONF.192/BMS/2010/3 paras.35, 38
\(^5\) A/RES/65/64 para. 22
\(^6\) A/CONF.192/BMS/2010/3 paras.35, 38
\(^7\) A/RES/66/47, para. 15, A/RES/65/64 para. 21, A/CONF.192/BMS/2010/3 paras. 37, 43