



General Assembly

Distr.: Limited
11 October 2006

Original: English

Sixty-first session

First Committee

Agenda item 90

General and complete disarmament

[[: draft resolution

Toward an arms trade treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms

The General Assembly,

Guided by the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and reaffirming its respect for and commitment to international law,

Recalling its resolutions 46/36 L of 9 December 1991 entitled "Transparency in armaments", 51/47B of 10 December 1996 entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission", 51/45N of 10 December 1996 entitled "Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures", 56/24 V of 24 December 2001 entitled "The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects", 60/69 of 8 December 2005 entitled "National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology", and 60/82 of 8 December 2005 entitled "Information on confidence-building measures in the field of conventional arms",

Recognising that arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation are essential for the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the inherent right of all States to individual or collective self-defence in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations,

Acknowledging the right of all States to manufacture, import, export, transfer and retain conventional arms for self defence and security needs, and in order to participate in peace support operations,

Recalling the obligations of all States to fully comply with arms embargoes decided by the United Nations Security Council in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations,

Reaffirming our respect for international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law, and the Charter of the United Nations,

Taking note of and encouraging relevant initiatives, undertaken at the international, regional and subregional levels between states, and including those of the United Nations, and of the role played by non-governmental organisations and civil society, to enhance co-operation, improve information exchange and transparency and implement confidence building measures in the field of responsible arms trade,

Recognising that the absence of common international standards on the import, export and transfer of conventional arms is a contributory factor to conflict, displacement of people, crime, and terrorism; thereby undermining peace, reconciliation, safety, security, stability and sustainable development,

Acknowledging the growing support across all regions for concluding a legally binding instrument negotiated on a non-discriminatory, transparent and multilateral

basis, to establish common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms,

1. Requests the Secretary-General to seek the views of Member States on the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export, and transfer of conventional arms, and to submit a report on the subject to the General Assembly at its sixty-second session,

2. Also requests the Secretary-General, to establish a group of governmental experts, on the basis of equitable geographic distribution, commencing in 2008, informed by the report of the Secretary-General submitted to the sixty-second General Assembly, to examine the feasibility, scope and draft parameters for a comprehensive, legally binding instrument establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms, and to transmit the report of the group of experts to the General Assembly for consideration at its sixty-third session,

3. Further requests the Secretary-General to provide the group of governmental experts with any assistance and services that may be required for the discharge of its tasks,

4. Decides to include in the provisional agenda for its sixty-second session the item entitled “Towards an Arms Trade Treaty: establishing common international standards for the import, export and transfer of conventional arms”.