



PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE INTERVENTION

on

Agenda Item 6

Consideration of the implementation of the Programme of Action in all its aspects at the national, regional and global levels, including:

b) International cooperation and assistance

by

H.E. MR. LIBRAN N. CABACTULAN

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Philippines
to the United Nations

On the Occasion of the
**4TH BIENNIAL MEETING OF STATES TO CONSIDER THE NATIONAL,
REGIONAL, AND GLOBAL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROGRAMME OF
ACTION TO PREVENT, COMBAT, AND ERADICATE, THE ILLICIT TRADE IN
SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS**

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PHILIPPINE MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS

556 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, NY 10036 • TEL. (212) 764-1300 • FAX (212) 840-8602

Agenda Item 6 – Consideration of the implementation of the Programme of Action in all its aspects at the national, regional and global levels, including:

b) International cooperation and assistance

I thank you Mr. Chairman for giving me the floor. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of Ms. Sarah de Zoeten of Australia and commend her for the discussion paper on international cooperation and assistance, which is a good basis for our work.

Mr. Chairman,

In line with your request, I shall shorten my intervention.

The Philippines actively cooperates with the international community through information exchange and legal assistance. An example of this is cooperation and coordination with parallel law enforcement agencies and INTERPOL.

Specifically, the Philippines coordinates with INTERPOL on tracing illicit arms through the latter's International Weapons and Explosives Tracking System database.

Mr. Chairman,

The Philippines recommends that international cooperation and coordination be enhanced in the areas of tracing, information exchange, and the investigation and prosecution of those involved in the illicit trade of SALW. It is in this regard, for instance, that the ideas put forward for press reporting to include also the manufacturer or the maker of killer small arms or light weapons become salient. The Philippines advocates for improved and up to date records keeping processes. States can exchange knowledge and expertise, especially between States with well-established records keeping mechanisms and those whose systems are not as up to date. The Philippines further recommends that there be an enhanced cooperation between States through appropriate counterpart agencies, in particular law enforcement agencies, in information exchange, sharing of experience and expertise, exchange of national points of contact and the regular interaction of these points of contact.

The Philippines also expresses the desire that aid options be made more visible to States. Aside from relying on the United Nations and its regional centers for cooperation and assistance, States, especially those with the resources and expertise can also specify what type of assistance they can provide to others who would need it. This is where national reports become essential in the sense that in such reports, States can outline their national programs, which can be studied by others.

On a final note, the Philippines hopes that States and relevant international and regional organizations would consider extending more technical and financial assistance in areas such as capacity building, training for law enforcement authorities and conduct of public awareness programs on the problems brought about by illicit SALWs.

I thank you Mr. Chairman.