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The Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations presents its compliments to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs and with reference to UNODA note verbale No. ODA/54-2013/SALW-PoA dated 20th September 2013, has the honour to enclose Pakistan National Report on the implementation of the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW).

The Permanent Mission of Pakistan to the United Nations avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs, the assurances of its highest consideration.



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GOVERNMENT OF PAKISTAN
MINISTRY OF INTERIOR

**PAKISTAN'S NATIONAL REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UN
PROGRAMME OF ACTION ON SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT WEAPONS
(SALW)**

This national report is intended to update the previous national reports by Pakistan on the implementation of United Nations Programme of Action (UN PoA).

2. The illicit trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) has caused havoc all around the world, abetting crime, terrorist activities, narcotics trafficking and sadly, deaths and disabilities of civilian including women and children. The easy availability of these arms is being facilitated, *inter alia*, by lack of weak regulatory controls, excessive production, transfers and sale motivated by profits and politics.

3. Proliferation of Small Arms and Light Weapons across countries has destroyed communities and threatened peace and stability in many regions. Violent force is amplified through illegally acquired arms and firepower which can multiply damage incurred by use of such weapons. At the same time terrorism and violent extremism have reached new scales due to simple movement and spread of weapons through cities and small towns. Pakistan is facing the brunt of such an impact in terms of increasing violence and terrorism.

4. Pakistan values the contribution made by the UN Programme of Action in addressing the challenges arising from misuse or unauthorized use of these weapons. Pakistan supports the full and effective implementation of the PoA. International assistance and cooperation are central to the implementation of such international mechanisms. In addition, a comprehensive and integrated approach is needed which addresses issues arising from SALW both from "supply" and "demand" sides. Unresolved disputes, growth in terrorist activities, the rise in illicit narcotic and organized crimes are the driving force behind the demand for illegal small arms trade.

5. Pakistan is fully cognizant of the threats posed to national, regional and global stability by the diversions of weapons systems, including Small Arms and Light Weapons, to illicit channels. As a state fighting against terrorism, Pakistan has been severely affected by the problem of illicit SALW. The Government of Pakistan has promulgated necessary legislative, regulatory and institutional mechanisms to address a broad range of issues relating to small arms and light weapons.

Some Initiatives of Government of Pakistan to implement the UN Programme of Action (UNPoA) are as follows:

6. Pursuant to the 18th Amendment in the Constitution of Pakistan, the subject of arms has been devolved to the provinces. However, in its efforts to streamline issues related to prohibited bore (Automatic weapons) arms licenses, the Federal Ministry of Interior has invited all the provinces for discussion and deliberation in the Council of Common Interest (CCI).

7. The Federal Government has enacted Arms Policy – 2012, with strict criteria for obtaining arms licences. Moreover, authority for approval of arms licences for automatic weapons has been kept with Prime Minister only.

8. The Ministry of Interior is effectively assisting the provinces in controlling illicit arms. In this regard the Federal Government issued a notification under the Section 4 of the illicit Arms Act 1991 to empower provincial government in Sind to control arms and carry out de-weaponization campaign in Karachi. In the year 2013-2014, a total of 3362 people have been arrested with illicit arms and 9652 illicit arms have been recovered in this effort.

9. The Government of Pakistan has directed all concerned to strictly ensure production of the End User Certificate (EUC) at the time of import of arms. Moreover, Home Departments and District Administration have been directed to monitor the details of sale and purchase, of arms and ammunitions by arms dealers, in their respective jurisdiction.

10. To regulate the subject of arms and ammunition effectively, the Ministry of Interior has imposed complete ban on new arms licenses since June 20th, 2013. Similarly, to achieve transparency, the Government of Pakistan has started computerization of all arms licences through Notional Database & Registration Authority (NADRA). Updated status of computerization of arms licences is as under:-

i.	Total arms licences issued by Ministry of Interior (MoI)	352843
ii.	Arms licences processed in NADRA for computerization of record	135232
iii.	Sent from NADRA to Ministry of Interior for genuineness of arms licences	68383
iv.	Verified by Ministry of Interior	42557
v.	Arms licences declared bogus	1149
vi.	Arms licences yet to be computerized	217611

Note: (Statistic as of 26.05.2014)

11. The Ministry of Interior has planned to launch media campaign to sensitize general public to get their arms licences computerized before June 30th 2014.

12. The provincial government of Sindh has imposed ban on issuance of arms licences since September 27th 2013. The provinces of Punjab and Baluchistan have suspended the issuance of arms licences.

13. Following the lead of the Federal Government, the provincial governments of Sindh, Punjab and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa have also launched their program for computerization of provincial arms licences through NADRA.

14. The laws and regulations are kept under constant review in order to ensure their relevance new developments taking place locally and internationally.

15. For regulating export and import of arms/weapons, the government is taking the following steps:

- i) All arms and ammunition manufacturing units whether in the government or private sector have to route their exports through the Ministry of Defence Production.
- ii) The Ministry of Defence Production has to issue authorizations for arms export following an inter-agency review of export applications on a case to case basis.
- iii) Arms Ordinance 1965 amended in 1991 and 2001 provides the legal basis for police, customs and other law enforcement agencies to prosecute violations of governmental controls over production, import, export, possession and transfer of SALW.

16. According to the Import policy of the Government of Pakistan, import of Non-prohibited bore (NPB) weapons is allowed only through authorized arms dealers/importers, Pakistan Ordnance Factory, Wah (POF) and Political Agent are authorized to sell PB weapons to arms licence holders in a prescribed manner.

17. The Government of Pakistan has initiated a program to bring the local arms-smiths of Darra Adam Khail under the supervision of Pakistan Ordnance Factories (POF). This has not only helped in the economic development of the locals but also contributed to regulate illicit manufacturing of SALW and its trafficking.

18. The Government of Pakistan is committed to strictly implement system of marking on arms and ammunition privately manufactured in its tribal areas, particularly in Darra Adam Khail agency.

Marking and Record Keeping:

19. All small arms and light weapons (civil and military) produced by registered manufacturing units in Pakistan are marked uniquely on different vital components (i.e. frame, receiver, barrel, slide etc.) for tracing and record keeping. The information in marking includes manufacturer name, year, type of weapons and serial number.

20. A record of every weapon manufactured by the factory is kept along with the information of the concerned dealer to show receipts, disposal, and remaining stocks. The daily sale of arms and ammunition of different categories and such other information as may be required is provided for record.

Conclusion

21. Proliferation of small arms and light weapons present a direct threat at every level. Strict regulation of national, regional and international level and advocacy initiatives can play a role in containing the spread of SALW. Moreover, with implementation of UN plan of action, the illicit flow and use of these weapons can be restricted to a large extent. The uncontrolled proliferation of illicit Small Arms and Light Weapons threatens peace and socio-economic development especially in under developed and developing countries of the world. In Pakistan, SALW have been extensively used by criminal gangs and terrorists against people and the State. This is particularly important in post-2001 period where Pakistan is confronting the menace of terrorism at the forefront of international efforts against terrorism. The Government of Pakistan is making a concerted effort to restrain the spread of SALW and adhere to international standards of control.
