



*Ambassador and Permanent Representative  
of Nigeria to the United Nations*

Ref :No. PMN/PR/C.07

15 December, 2011

Your Excellency / *Dear Colleague*

**REVIEW CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS  
PROGRAMME OF ACTION TO PREVENT, COMBAT AND  
ERADICATE THE ILLICIT TRADE IN SMALL ARMS AND LIGHT  
WEAPONS IN ALL ITS ASPECTS**

It was gratifying to see so many Member States at the second informal consultations regarding the Review Conference on the Programme of Action on small arms, held on 8 December. It is my understanding that some member States were still awaiting instruction from their capitals regarding the issues raised in my invitation letter to the informal consultations of 30 November 2011. I must state that preliminary feedback received was considerably encouraging.

A number of States focused on the need to leave enough time for negotiating an outcome document during the Review Conference. To that end, it was suggested that an early consideration of the possible themes would be a vital part of the Preparatory Committee meeting which will be held from 19-23 March 2012.

I consider this a very helpful proposal and would like to engage States in further debate on its merits. Therefore, as discussed on 8 December, I propose to hold the next informal consultations on **Thursday, 22 December 2011, at 3:00 p.m., in Conference Room 6 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.**

In line with standing practice, this informal meeting will be conducted in English. As I mentioned at the last consultations, I also plan to hold informal consultations in Geneva. These are now scheduled for 18 January 2012.

For your convenience, please find herewith again for guidance, an initial list of suggested themes for the agenda of the Review Conference, outlined in my invitation letter of 30 November to all Missions:

- The RevCon should cover several thematic areas;
- Such themes should include the discussions of the review period 2006-2012, during which the 3rd and the 4th Biennial Meetings of States (2008, 2010), and the 2011 Meeting of Governmental Experts (MGE) were held;
- We should continue the practice of beginning the thematic debate immediately following the opening of the conference;
- The RevCon would benefit from a special focus on regional implementation of the Programme of Action;
- NGO participation could be organised in a manner similar to that at past UN meetings on the Programme of Action;
- The timely appointment of facilitators on specific topics.

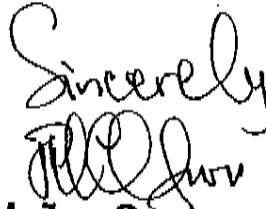
Initial list of suggested themes for the agenda of the RevCon:

1. Marking, record-keeping and cooperation in tracing;
2. Illicit brokering in small arms and light weapons;
3. Stockpile management and surplus disposal;
4. Establishment where appropriate, of sub-regional or regional mechanisms, with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders, including trans-border customs cooperation and networks for information-sharing among law enforcement, border and customs control agencies;
5. International assistance and capacity building;
6. Regional implementation of the Programme of Action;
7. Strengthening the follow-up mechanism of the Programme of Action;

8. Other issues.

I look forward to seeing you at the consultations.

Please accept, Your Excellency, the renewed assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely  


**U. Joy Ogwu**

**Ambassador/Permanent Representative**

To All:  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
To the United Nations  
New York