

Israel

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

At the outset, allow me to express my delegation's appreciation for your guidance and stewardship of this important meeting, and Israel fully supports the work of the Architecture for Implementation.

Turning to the Programme of Action (PoA), as we discuss a workable architecture for the future, there are certain principles that should be applied in order to maximize our use of resources to combat the illicit trade in SALW.

First, the PoA must be universal in nature and action-oriented. Such direction will help create tangible, practical steps forward to combat the illicit trade in SALW. Second, there must be clear links between meetings such as this one, and the many provisions of the PoA. This will ensure that gatherings such as this one focus on the situation on the ground. Finally, the design of any PoA should act as building blocs to examine, review, and evaluate the implementation of all aspects of the PoA.

Turning now to specific proposals for the Programme of Action, I wish to offer concrete proposals on a variety of issues addressed in this meeting.

1. It is important that we move past the current sporadic meeting schedule that does not fully yield the results that we seek. It would be useful to formalize a practice whereby there exists a 5-year PoA meeting cycle. This proposal would not only bring the PoA more into line with other arms controls instruments, but it would further enhance interaction between experts.
2. In addition to a more formalized meeting cycle, we would like to institutionalize fixed, 10-day meetings. This proposal would provide a clearer framework to provide updates, assess progress, and devise strategies identified at previous meetings.
3. In order to maximize the efficiency of these meetings, it is strongly advisable to identify themes and designate chairs in advance of each 5-year cycle.
4. To make the most of the designated themes, national reports that are due every two years should focus on the identified themes. Such organization of work will bolster efforts to ensure intelligent use of reporting, as well as link reporting to meetings and allow for analysis.
5. We believe that it will be essential to alternate the meeting venues between New York and Geneva. Such bifurcation will expand and solidify the pool of knowledge on these issues as we would be able to benefit from a wider group of professionals in this field.
6. As we look towards the 2012 Review Conference, we wish to see a PrepCom held 6 months in advance to set the agenda, programme of work, rules of procedure,

and format of outcome. Additionally, it merits consideration to hold subsidiary body meetings in parallel to the general debate section to ensure the best use of time at the Review Conference. Finalizing these issues in advance will dramatically reduce the workload at the Review Conference and ensure enough time to discuss substantive issues.

Before concluding, I wish to draw the attention of my colleagues that the aforementioned proposals can, and should be achieved within existing resources.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, we believe these proposals will help guide our work to eradicate the plague of the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons.

Thank you.