

**Statement of the delegation of the Islam Republic of Iran**

On trans-border cooperation to prevent, combat and eradicate the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons (SALW)

At the Fourth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the Implementation of the Program of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in SALW in All Its Aspects  
(New York, 14 June 2010)

***In the Name of Allah, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful***

***Mr. Chairman,***

I congratulate you on your election as the chairman of this meeting. While assuring you of the cooperation of my delegation, I am confident that under your able leadership, this meeting will come to a fruitful conclusion.

I associate myself to the statement made by Indonesia on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

***Mr. Chairman,***

There is a close link between terrorism, organized crime and trafficking in drugs and the illicit trade in SALW. As it has been mentioned in the discussion paper before us, the porosity of borders is an aggravating element in this regard.

Accordingly, the development of subregional or regional mechanisms with a view to preventing, combating and eradicating the illicit trade in SALW across borders is an important issue.

Having long borders with 15 countries and as a transit route for drug trafficking and illicit trade in SALW in the region, the Islamic Republic of Iran attaches great importance to cooperation at the bilateral, sub-regional and regional levels to fight drug trafficking and the illicit trade in SALW.

Currently, we have several bilateral and multilateral cooperation and coordination mechanisms with our neighbors to effectively fight the illicit trade in SALW and drug trafficking across our borders.

Iran has offered more than 3500 of its military and law enforcement agency personnel as martyrs in fight against drug trafficking and illicit trade in SALW.

***Mr. Chairman,***

In contravention of the PoA commitments, some constraints have been imposed on my country in transferring appropriate technologies to combat drug trafficking and illicit trade in SALW. Despite that, Iran has made significant progress in the implementation of the PoA.

In conclusion, Mr. Chairman, I would like to emphasize on the essential importance of facilitation of transferring the technologies that improve the fight against drug trafficking as well as tracing and detection of illicit trade in SALW. Accordingly, I propose the inclusion of a paragraph in the outcome document of our meeting, reaffirming commitment to the removal of all such restrictions and stressing the need for facilitating the transfer of technologies required for tracing and detection of illicit trade in SALW.

***Thank you.***