

Summary

16 June 2014 – Afternoon session

The afternoon session continued the thematic debate considering the implementation of the Programme of Action in all its aspects at the national, regional and global levels, including stockpile management, including physical security measures of small arms and light weapons.

After the chair reopened discussions the order of speakers was; **OSCE (Moldova), Mexico, Australia, Malaysia, the Netherlands, Israel, Palestine, United Kingdom, Switzerland, Belarus, Canada, the USA, Mali, Benin, Nicaragua and Austria.**

Nearly all states made reference to the importance of stockpile management for combating the illicit trade in SALW. Related to that was the need to improve the physical security of these stocks. **Australia** and **Mexico** both outlined stockpile management as an issue that has wide ramifications. They stated that poor security is a major cause of diversion and it can also lead to accidents and explosions. The **Netherlands** stated that stockpile management and physical security needed to be integrated into the wider disarmament process, in an integrated approach. The **Swiss** and **UK** delegations both emphasised the importance of stockpile management and physical security, because of the detrimental effects on development caused by accidents and explosions. The **USA** referred to its \$2.3bn contribution to stockpile destructions, and pointed out that conflict or post-conflict states were very vulnerable to losing control of their stockpiles. Thus there was a general call for the improvement of stockpile management and physical security.

There were also detailed statements about the legislation that states had put in place to improve stockpile management or implement the PoA. **Belarus** and **Malaysia** both discussed their regulations, such as regular reviews of stockpiles and destruction of all confiscated SALW, as a positive way of dealing with the issue. **Mali** spoke about its National action plan to implement the PoA, which included training centres. **Nicaragua** discussed national legislation to create a coordination body that formulates policy and works to develop a culture of peace.

Regarding ammunition, **Australia, Austria, Netherlands, and Switzerland** recommended including ammunition in the discussions. **Australia** mentioned that poorly secured ammunition stockpiles could lead to diversion and explosions, so supported the inclusion of ammunition as part of comprehensive approach to stockpile management. **Austria** also supported this comprehensive approach. **Netherlands** supported the inclusion of ammunition, to ensure an integrated approach. **Switzerland** recommended exploring ways to include ammunition in the discussions, since it is an essential component of SALW. However, the **USA** strongly objected to these continued references to ammunition, stating that the topic should be discussed in a different forum.

Australia, Austria, Netherlands and the **USA** supported the role of women in policymaking, planning and implementation processes related to SALW, citing Security Council Resolution 1325 in support. These include processes related to stockpile management, including physical security measures. **Australia** supported a strong commitment to women's decision-making and involvement in combating SALW. **Netherlands** also mentioned that including gender perspective in decision-making is important and women should be an integral part of efforts. The **USA** also supported the discussion of lifecycle management and marking and the role of women.

Numerous countries made reference to international standards and guidelines, with a wide range of view represented. **Australia, Austria** and **Switzerland** all called for the adoption of international standards and guidelines, suggesting the adoption into the PoA of the International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG). However, the **USA** strongly

objected to this, stating it supported 'voluntary guidelines' but would oppose international standards. **Belarus, Malaysia** and **Mexico** stated that they already had standards and procedures in place, but did not indicate whether they welcomed or were opposed to international standards.

There was support from **Australia, Mali, Mexico, OSCE** (represented by **Moldova**) and the **USA** for the continued reference, within the outcome document, to Security Council Resolution 2117.

The issue of border control was referred to by **Israel** and **Mexico**. **Mexico** called for cooperation of all states to strengthen border controls and **Israel** stated that border controls and the prevention of trafficking and smuggling needed to be a main focus.

There were numerous references to cooperation and assistance, both from countries calling for it to be increased, and countries describing the assistance they give. **Australia, OSCE, the UK** and the **USA** all spoke about the assistance they give to developing countries and regional groups, to improve stockpile management and increase capabilities and training. **Belarus** called for more regional cooperation and international projects to increase stockpile security. **Benin** also called for greater assistance and exchange of technology and training. **Mali** thanked **Germany** for the help already given and advocated for the usefulness of international assistance and cooperation.

Australia and **Austria** both thanked the Secretary General for his report on technology and its impact on SALW. **Israel** also mentioned technology, seeking an addition to paragraph 5 of the draft outcome document to include the use of 'sophisticated technology' to help combat diversion in post-conflict regions. The **USA** was wary about highlighting some technologies over others and wanted only general references to technology in the outcome document.

Australia, Benin, the Netherlands and **Mexico** all welcomed the mention of the ATT into the BMS5 discussions, but the **USA** opposed discussion of anything outside of the PoA.

Australia, Mali, and the **Netherlands** noted the importance, where mandated and in full consultation with relevant stakeholders, of integrating stockpile management measures with wider national Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR) programmes, particularly in conflict and post-conflict situations. **Australia** supported the inclusion in DDR of physical security and stockpile management. **Mali** stated that the inclusion of Security Council Resolution 2117 should lead to better implementation of DDR. **Netherlands** noted the need to integrate physical security and stockpile management activities into wider disarmament programmes and Security Sector Reform programmes.

Finally, certain states aligned themselves to statements made by regional groups or other states. **Malaysia** associated itself with **NAM's** working paper. **Netherlands** aligned itself to the statement of the **EU**. **Palestine** agreed with the statement from **Qatar** on behalf of the **Arab Group**.