



Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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Working Group on Firearms

Vienna, 9 June 2015

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Consideration of the outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms.
3. Other matters.
4. Adoption of the report.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The meeting of the Working Group on Firearms will be opened on 9 June 2015 at 10 a.m.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

In its resolution 5/4, entitled “Illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition”, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime decided to establish an open-ended intergovernmental working group on firearms, in accordance with article 32, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and rule 2, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure for the Conference, to be chaired by a member of the Bureau of the Conference, to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate with regard to the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their



Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

In that resolution, the Conference also decided that the working group should perform the following functions: (a) facilitate implementation of the Firearms Protocol through the exchange of experience and practices among experts and practitioners; (b) make recommendations to the Conference on how States parties could better implement the provisions of the Firearms Protocol; (c) assist the Conference in providing guidance to its secretariat on the activities of the Secretariat and on the development of technical assistance tools relating to the implementation of the Firearms Protocol; and (d) make recommendations to the Conference on how the working group could better coordinate with the various international bodies combating the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition, in the area of supporting and promoting implementation of the Firearms Protocol.

In its resolution 7/1, entitled “Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto”, the Conference decided that the Working Group on Firearms would be a constant element of the Conference of the Parties, forwarding its reports and recommendations to the Conference, and encouraged the Working Group to consider meeting on an annual basis, as needed.

At its meeting on 6 February 2015, the extended Bureau of the Conference of the Parties agreed on the provisional agenda for the meeting of the Working Group to be held in Vienna on 9 June 2015.

The proposed organization of work, contained in the annex to the present document, was prepared in accordance with Conference resolution 7/1 in order to enable the Working Group to perform its mandated functions within the time and according to the conference services available to it. The resources available to the Working Group will permit the holding of two plenary meetings during one day with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations.

2. Consideration of the outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms

In its resolution 5/4, the Conference requested UNODC to conduct a study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms, based on the analysis of information provided by States on confiscated weapons and ammunition. At the sixth session of the Conference, the Secretariat provided a summary of the information collected from States on the illicit firearms trafficking situation in their respective countries, and suggestions regarding the global scope of such a study (CTOC/COP/2012/12).

In its resolution 6/2, the Conference took note of the information gathered so far by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in carrying out the study and requested the Office to improve the methodology and complete the study in accordance with its mandate, for consideration by the Conference at its seventh session. The Conference called upon States to participate in and contribute to the study, as appropriate.

Pursuant to that mandate, UNODC developed a methodology for the study, in cooperation with Member States, and made available two online questionnaires, with a view to standardizing and facilitating the data-gathering process of States, which were also made available to the Working Group on Firearms at its meeting held from 26 to 28 May 2014 (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/CRP.1 and CTOC/COP/WG.6/2014/CRP.2).

In its resolution 7/2, entitled “Importance of the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”, the Conference took note with appreciation of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms carried out by UNODC in accordance with the mandate given in Conference resolutions 5/4 of 22 October 2010 and 6/2 of 19 October 2012, and requested the Office to finalize and disseminate the study.

Also in resolution 7/2, the Conference requested UNODC to continue gathering information from States parties on illicit trafficking in firearms on a regular basis, and directed the Working Group on Firearms to consider the outcomes of the study, with a view to making recommendations to the Conference, at its eighth session, on the future of the study, including, but not limited to, whether the study should be repeated and/or updated and improved upon.

Under this item, the Working Group will also be briefed by the Secretariat on the work of UNODC to support the ratification and implementation of the Firearms Protocol, through the Global Firearms Programme. The Global Firearms Programme is currently supporting several countries in South America and West Africa in their efforts to counter illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components, and ammunition. Assistance under the Global Programme encompasses six key areas: (a) policy advice and legislative assistance; (b) technical support to implement the various Protocol requirements, in particular in the areas of marking, record-keeping, collection, management and disposal of seized firearms; (c) capacity-building and training support for the effective investigation and prosecution of firearms trafficking and related offences; (d) promotion of international and regional cooperation and exchange of good practices in preventing and combating firearms-related criminality; (e) development of legislative and technical assistance tools; and (f) support for monitoring of and information exchange on firearms trafficking through enhanced data collection and analysis at the national, regional and international levels.

For its consideration of this item, the Working Group will have before it the outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms.

The Working Group will also have before it a background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the activities of UNODC to promote and support the ratification and implementation of the Firearms Protocol (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2015/2).

Documentation

Outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the activities of UNODC to promote and support the ratification and implementation of the Firearms Protocol (CTOC/COP/WG.6/2015/2)

3. Other matters

As no issues to be raised under item 3 have come to the attention of the Secretariat, no documentation regarding this item is currently foreseen.

4. Adoption of the report

The Working Group will adopt a report on its meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the Secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Tuesday, 9 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	2	Consideration of the outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms
3-6 p.m.	2	Consideration of the outcomes of the study of the transnational nature of and routes used in trafficking in firearms (<i>continued</i>)
	3	Other matters
	4	Adoption of the report