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ACRONYM COARM CODUN
SUBJECT COARM CODUN - Meeting of interested members of COARM and CODUN on Arms
Trade Treaty (ATT), Brussels -12 September 2013 - Report
TEXT

SUBJECT: COARM CODUN - Meeting of interested members of COARM and CODUN on Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), Brussels -12 September 2013 - Report

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Deadline of the silence procedure for the operational conclusions: Thursday 19 September 2013 CoB

1. Issues relating to the ratification of the ATT by EU Member States

(i) Council decision authorising the ratification

The Group was updated on the consent process within the European Parliament regarding the Council Decision authorising the ratification of the ATT. Delegations urged to secure the parliamentary consent and final adoption of the Decision by the Council as soon as possible.

(ii) Issue of interpretative declaration when depositing instrument of ratification

The Group had a preliminary discussion on the issue of interpretative declaration, also paying attention to its timing and possible impact on other countries. Concerning Article 7, paragraph 3 of the Arms Trade Treaty, delegations discussed the possibility to clarify the term "overriding risk" and are invited to provide comments by 27 September 2013. The Group will revert to the issue at its next meeting, based on Member States' comments.

(iii) Issue of provisional application and interplay with Common Position 2008/944/CFSP

The Group discussed the issue of provisional application of Articles 6 and 7 of the Arms Trade Treaty. The Group will revert to this issue, notably in the light of the identification of relevant sections of the User's guide where guidance on the ATT could be integrated. Delegations are invited to submit comments in this regard by 27 September 2013.

2. Outreach and assistance activities in support of the ATT process

(i) Council decision 2013/43/CFSP in support of the ATT process

The Chair informed the Group that the draft 20-page publicly available paper foreseen by Council decision 2013/43/CFSP will be circulated to Member States shortly.

(ii) Other outreach and assistance activities

The <u>DELETED</u> delegation informed the Group that <u>DELETED</u> is currently elaborating a national strategy to promote the universal application of the ATT.

3. Possible new Council decision in support of the ATT implementation

The Group discussed the draft of the possible new Council Decision in support of the ATT implementation based on the EAS proposal (MD 45/2013). Delegations were invited to provide additional comments, by e-mail, by 25 September 2013. As regards the most suitable Implementing Agency, the Group discussed the possibility to approach BAFA, subject to silence procedure closing on 25 September 2013. If silence is not broken, the EEAS and the Commission will contact BAFA with a view to fine-tuning organisational and financial issues, notably as regards co-financing and burden-sharing of activities.

4. UNGA-related issues

The Group was updated on ATT-related issues with a view to the upcoming 68th UNGA. With regard to high level ATT event scheduled for 25 September 2013 in the framework of the UNGA leaders week, the Group welcomed a possible participation of the EU at appropriate level, which will be consequently explored by the EEAS.

5. Contacts with third countries and other stakeholders

Delegations exchanged views and information on contacts with third countries. The EEAS will provide first feed-back on the EU demarche (cf. EAS/1058/13) prior to the UNGA Leaders week. The Group agreed to return to the question of the ATT Secretariat based on further developments and possible EU coordination in this regard.

6. Wassenaar Arrangement and the ATT

The Group discussed how the ATT process could be best reflected in the framework of the Wassenaar Arrangement. The Group agreed to revert to the matter in the light of developments at the WA and within EU coordination ahead of WA meetings.

7. A.O.B.

- DELETED pointed to the proposed draft resolution by Ecuador, Costa Rica and Peru on arms transfers to countries affected by arms conflict, which is discussed during the ongoing 24th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva (9 27 September 2013). The Chair asked delegations to review the draft resolution and instruct relevant colleagues, where appropriate, in preparation for the coordination meeting in Geneva on 12 September 2013, 15h00.
- The Group was informed of the next meeting of the Expert Working Group, to be held in Brussels on 13 November 2013, in the framework of Council decision 2012/121/CFSP in support of activities to promote EU-China-Africa dialogue and cooperation on conventional arms controls.

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- Next meetings of COARM ATT is scheduled for 4 October 2013 (PM), and COARM for 4 October 2013 (AM).

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