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ACRONYM COARM CODUN
SUBJECT COARM CODUN - Meeting of the Working Party on Conventional Arms Exports
- Brussels, 9 December 2013 - Report
TEXT

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Deadline of the silence procedure for the operational conclusions: Friday 13 December 2013 CoB

1. Commission Communication on firearms and the internal security of the EU: protecting citizens and disrupting illegal trafficking and update on Regulation 258/2012

The Group received a presentation by the Commission (DG HOME) on the Commission communication of 21 October 2013 on "Firearms and the internal security of the EU: protecting citizens and disrupting illegal trafficking" (doc. 15369/13 - COM(2013) 716) and was updated on the state-of-play regarding Regulation 258/2012 of 14 March 2012 implementing Article 10 of the United Nations' Protocol against the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, applicable since 30 September 2013. Delegations were reminded of the need to notify the Commission the Member States' competent authorities for the implementation of the Regulation.

2. Council Decision 2012/711/CFSP on arms export control assistance and outreach

The Group was updated on the past and forthcoming activities carried out under Council Decision 2012/711/CFSP. Member States which had not already done so and in a position to contribute, were invited to nominate experts to be recorded in the EU Roster of experts available for arms export control outreach activities (cf. MD 44/2013).

3. Information exchange regarding export policies

The Group had an exchange of views and updates on export and transit policies **DELETED**. With regard **DELETED** and in follow-up to Council conclusions **DELETED**, delegations agreed to continue informing one another, notably via coreu and regular agenda items at COARM meetings on their arms export policies **DELETED** and notably to provide updates on the licences granted and suspended.

4. Possible additional information-sharing on licences granted to specific destinations

The Group discussed further the possible information-sharing on licences granted to specific/post-embargoed destinations, and addressed notably the administrative burden implied. The EEAS will seek the views of the Council Legal Service on any legal issues raised in relation to Common Position 2008/944/CFSP. Delegations were invited to provide further comments, by 20 December 2013, on the basis of the EEAS food for thought paper (EAS/1329/13) and of the COARM discussion.

5. Preparation of the 15th EU annual report on arms exports

The Group was informed that following the endorsement by the PSC of the 15th annual report (doc. 16607/13), it is scheduled for adoption, via Coreper of 11 December, at the Council ("Foreign Affairs") on 16 December 2013. Possibilities will be explored to make the report publicly accessible following its adoption and pending its publication in the Official Journal.

6. AOB

- The Chair informed the Group on the setting up of the ad hoc COARM sub-group for the Relex-tasked review of **explosives in the EU internal repression list**. All delegations were encouraged to closely follow the work of the sub-group.
- The Chair informed the Group on the state-of-play of the development of the **COARM online system**.
- The Chair informed the Group of the annual CODUN CONOP COARM **Directors meeting** and the **EU-28 Dialogue with the US**, scheduled for 12-13 December 2013, and the draft programme of work for 2014 (MD 54/2013).
- Following the observations made <u>DELETED</u> on the **exchange of information on denials**, the Chair also emphasised the importance to apply the approach agreed in the User's guide to communicate via coreu concerning the denials <u>DELETED</u>.
- The **next meetings** of the Group is tentatively scheduled for 15 January 2014, t.b.c.

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