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SUBJECT COARM CODUN CONUN - Meeting of interested members of COARM and CODUN on
ATT - Brussels, 9 July 2013 - Report
TEXT

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Deadline of the silence procedure for the operational conclusions: Wednesday 17 July 2013 CoB

- 1. Issues relating to the signature and ratification of the ATT by EU Member States
- (i) Signature plans of EU Member States that have not signed yet

The Group took note of the fact that all EU Member States had signed the ATT.

(ii) Council decision authorising the ratification

The Group discussed the draft Council decision authorising Member States to ratify, in the interests of the EU, the Arms Trade Treaty, as attached to doc. 11841/13, which is now subject to silence procedure expiring on <u>Friday 12 July 2013 CoB</u>. Following possible endorsement at COARM ATT level, the EEAS and the Council Secretariat will explore possibilities for receiving quickly the consent of the European Parliament to the ratification of the ATT.

The Group will revert to the issue of interpretative declarations at its next meeting, based notably on the Swiss proposal as well as possible proposals to be received from Member States.

2. Interplay between Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and the ATT

The Group had a preliminary discussion on the interplay between Common Position 2008/944/CFSP and the ATT. The Group's preliminary assessment was that there is no contradiction between the Common Position and the ATT.

Delegations also agreed on the advisability to use the review of the User's Guide to the Common Position, to possibly include ATT-relevant guidance. The Group will revert to this topic at its next meeting based on comments to be received from delegations by 6 September 2013. In their contributions, delegations are invited to reflect on possible amendments to the User's Guide and on the issue of SALW licensing.

3. Outreach activities in support of the ATT process

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

Delegations discussed the outcome of the second seminar held under Council decision 2013/43/CFSP in Geneva on 17/18 June 2013.

The Chair undertook to convey to the Implementing Agency (EU Non-proliferation Consortium), the guidance from delegations as to the 20-page publicly available report foreseen by the Council decision.

(ii) Council decision 2012/121/CFSP in support of activities to promote EU-China-Africa dialogue and cooperation on conventional arms controls

Delegations were updated by Saferworld, the Implementing Agency for Council decision 2012/121/CFSP, on the recent ATT-relevant activities.

(iii) Other outreach activities

Delegations exchanged information on their outreach activities they took part or plan to participate in.

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

Based on comments received to COARM MD 35/2013, the Group discussed the main elements of the possible new Council Decision in support of the ATT implementation. The EEAS will subsequently put forward a draft Council Decision prior to the next meeting of the Group. The Group will also revert to the issue of the Implementing Agency, based on Member States proposals to be received by 26 July 2013.

5. Contacts with third countries and other stakeholders

(i) information-sharing on recent consultations with third countries

Delegations and the EEAS shared information on recent consultations on ATT with third countries.

(ii) EU demarche in support of the ATT signature

The Group discussed the draft terms of reference that will guide the future EU demarches on the ATT (EAS/0888/13). DELETED

Based on comments to be received from Member States by 26 July 2013, the EEAS will revise the draft terms of reference and submit them for silence procedure in August.

6. Wassenaar Arrangement and the ATT

The Group agreed to defer the discussion to its next meeting.

7. A.O.B.

The next meetings of the Group will be held on 12 September 2013 (full day) and on 4 October 2013 (p.m.).

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