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68<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly

**Fifth Biennial Meeting of States to Consider the  
Implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent,  
Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and  
Light Weapons in All Its Aspects**

International cooperation and assistance for full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument.

New York, 18 June 2014

Swiss Statement

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Thank you Mr. Chair,

Switzerland would like to make a few observations on the issue of international cooperation and assistance, which we regard as a key element of implementation of the Programme of Action.

In view of the increasing needs and continuing challenges in achieving the concrete implementation of the Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, Switzerland calls upon all actors to strive for a coherent, coordinated and complementary approach to cooperation and assistance, to maximize their efficiency and effectiveness.

Switzerland welcomes the establishment of the UN Trust Fund Facility Supporting Cooperation on Arms Regulation (UNSCAR). We would like to emphasise that UNSCAR provides supports to both the implementation of the UN Programme of Action and the International Tracing Instrument, as much as on the preparation for ratification of Arms Trade Treaty.

Switzerland encourages states to adopt appropriate standards, benchmarks and indicators for assessing cooperation and assistance efforts, and progress in implementation of the Programme of Action. In this respect, we welcome the development of the voluntary

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International Small Arms Control Standards (ISACS) and the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines (IATG), and encourage member states to explore ways to ensure their implementation in UN-led cooperation and assistance projects.

With respect to the issue of the transfer of technology and equipment, Switzerland encourages member states to exercise due diligence, especially to ensure the provision of technology and equipment appropriate for local capacities, structures and procedures, as well as accompanying such transfers with relevant capacity building for the personnel and maintenance of transferred equipment and technologies.

Finally, allow me to come back to paragraph 13 discussed on Monday during the informal consultations.

Switzerland proposes the following changes:

1. First, maintain the first part of paragraph 13 until “...including relevant training.” unchanged.
2. Second, recycle the second part of the paragraph and to move it into Section III (way ahead) as new paragraph 62bis, reading as:

*“To explore ways to establish the relevant framework for the provision of training and expertise on small arms and light weapons stockpile management, including physical security measures, cognisant of the different multilateral settings in which such cooperation and assistance are pursued.”*

We have submitted the text proposal to the secretariat.

Thank you Mr. Chair.