



EUROPEAN UNION

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EU Statement in response to H.E. Philip Griffiths, Head of Secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement

The European Union and its Member States warmly welcome Ambassador Griffiths, Head of the Secretariat of the Wassenaar Arrangement, to the Forum for Security Co-operation and thank him for his comprehensive presentation. We appreciate the opportunity for continued dialogue with the Wassenaar Arrangement, which is very timely this year when the regime celebrates its 20th anniversary and when the Wassenaar Arrangement assesses its work.

The Wassenaar Arrangement plays an important role in promoting transparency and responsibility in transfers of conventional arms and dual use goods, thus helping prevent destabilising accumulations. The EU has included the Wassenaar Arrangement control lists in its legislation and practices: the Dual Use control list is included in the EU Dual Use Regulation, while the Wassenaar Arrangement Munitions List is mirrored in the Common Military List of the EU. The Wassenaar Arrangement Elements for Objective Analysis concerning Potentially Destabilising Accumulations of Conventional Weapons are consistent with the EU User's Guide on the implementation of the Common Position on the control of exports of military technology and equipment. The WA Best practise guidelines for exports of small arms and light weapons (2000) encourage participating States to share information bilaterally on persons and companies considered to present a high risk of diversion. In this regard the EU has recently created an electronic database that allows the sharing of information between the Member States on denied export licences and reasons for the denial, such as identified diversion or un-authorised re-export by certain end-users.

The EU and its Member States strive to apply the highest standards of export controls for military and dual use items. The information exchange within the

Wassenaar Arrangement enables participating States to implement robust and well informed export controls. This is why we actively support the accession of all EU Member States to the Arrangement. In this regard we reiterate the full support of the EU and its Member States for Cyprus's ongoing application to participate in the Wassenaar Arrangement.

The EU continues to allocate significant resources engaging with third-party countries with a view to building export control capacities in those nations. These efforts complement the commendable outreach activities carried out by the Wassenaar Arrangement. The EU also supports capacities to trace the origins of diverted small arms and light weapons in a law enforcement context and in areas affected by armed conflict. Tracing reveals patterns of diversion and produces information that can be used to enhance the effectiveness of arms export control.

We are particularly grateful to Ambassador Griffiths for his extremely valuable and effective work as Head of Secretariat and congratulate him on his role in making the Wassenaar Arrangement the valuable organisation that it is today.

The Candidate Countries the FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA*, MONTENEGRO*, SERBIA* and ALBANIA*, the Country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and Potential Candidate BOSNIA and HERZEGOVINA, and the EFTA countries ICELAND and NORWAY, members of the European Economic Area, as well as UKRAINE and GEORGIA align themselves with this statement.

* The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania continue to be part of the Stabilisation and Association Process.